

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Connecticut, Florida, Wisconsin, Kentucky
a fearsome foursome
Back page



WORLD

Koreas exchange
barrage of artillery
over Yellow Sea
Page 9

MIDEAST

Head of oversight
in Afghanistan says
much work remains
Page 2

Ukraine unrest: NATO commander ordered back to Europe » **Page 11**

STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 72, No. 255

©SS 2014

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2014

平成26年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Pentagon unifies POW/MIA recovery

By CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A single Pentagon office will now be in charge of the troubled effort to identify and recover the remains of U.S. war dead, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announced Monday.

The order will create a "single accountable organization that has complete oversight of personnel accounting resources, research and operations," overseen by the undersecretary of defense for policy, Hagel said.

The decision follows a series of damning reports in the past year about the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, the two agencies that had primary responsibility for MIA recovery efforts. The two will now be combined, along with certain functions of the Air Force's Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory, Hagel said.

To improve the search, identification and recovery process, the DOD will create a centralized database and case management system containing all missing servicemembers' information, Hagel said.

"These steps will help improve the accounting mission, increase the number of identifications of our missing, provide greater transparency for their families and expand our case file system to include all missing personnel," he said.

The Pentagon has been under fire from Congress and others for the performance of the two offices.

SEE RECOVERY ON PAGE 6



Released prisoner of war Lt. Col. Robert L. Stirm is greeted by his family at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, Calif., on March 17, 1973. In front is Stirm's daughter Lori, followed by son Robert and daughter Cynthia.



'The only heroes of the war'

Bringing POWs home
became a rallying call
for weary country | **Page 3**

At stripes.com/vietnam50

A multimedia presentation on the two longest-held POWs and the POW experience.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Remember, when life is kicking your butt, never forget to kick it back right in the face."

— "Iron Man" actor Robert Downey Jr., who won best male butt-kicker at Nickelodeon's 27th annual Kids' Choice Awards show

See story on Page 17

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. South Korea returns fire from North near disputed sea boundary
2. Boy with genetic disorder plays Navy SEAL for a day
3. Scott AFB airmen to work, vacuum own buildings to cut costs
4. Major submarine accidents remain isolated but costly
5. Japan, US to create new defense body for disputed islands

COMING SOON



Movies

"Noah" starts flood of Biblical flicks in 2014

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	16
Business	18
Classified	19, 21-22
Comics	20
Crossword	20
Faces	17
Opinion	12-13
Shifting Gears	15
Sports	23-32
Weather	18

MIDEAST

SIGAR: Major challenges remain in Afghanistan

By JOSH HICKS
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — John Sopko became the first permanent Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction in 2012 after more than 37 years of accountability work with government and the private sector. He inherited a dispirited agency that was struggling with retention and had a reputation for ineffectiveness.

Sopko oversees the development work of U.S. agencies in Afghanistan, including the Army Corps of Engineers, the Defense Department, the State Department and the Agency for International Development.

We talked with Sopko about a range of issues, including his attempts to turn around SIGAR, the security problems associated with dwindling troop numbers and the move toward "direct assistance," which allows the Afghan government to distribute U.S. money on its own.

Below is an edited transcript of the interview.

What are the oversight challenges you see as the U.S. military continues its withdrawal from Afghanistan?

The withdrawal is continuing. The numbers I hear range from zero to 10,000 U.S. troops and about 2,000 to 6,000 coalition troops. Whatever the number is, there are going to be fewer U.S. and coalition troops and fewer locations where those troops are located. Accordingly, it's going to

be less secure.

That's why, more than ever, I think the need for a SIGAR and the need for other oversight is even more important. We've made a commitment to continue funding reconstruction, even with a smaller footprint over there. We have to ensure that there are safeguards and protections put in place. We're just going to have to think harder about how to do monitoring — remote monitoring or third-party monitoring of all these reconstruction facilities that we built.

A big challenge is going to be direct assistance and making certain that Afghan government ministries that get the money are able to handle it, and it won't get stolen or misused. AID and State and DOD have got to put safeguards in there before we go to direct assistance.

How much U.S. assistance is now direct assistance?

We promised 50 percent, and we're slowly getting there. Most of that direct assistance now is going through various trust funds. There's a big trust fund set up to pay the salaries of the Afghan National Army, and there's another trust fund that's run by the U.N. to pay the salaries of the police, and there's a trust fund set up by the World Bank to support some of the Afghan ministries.

What problems have you discovered with those programs?

We just uncovered some allegations about the Afghan National Police, that there are certain funds or monies taken out of the

police salaries every month that we don't know where the money went, nor do our allies.

And then there's another fund of about 5 percent that was supposed to go toward retirement, and we don't know where that money is. And then we heard about generals who apparently are not listed in the police force, but their salaries are being paid. So we picked up a number of allegations that we're looking into.

Is overseeing Afghanistan reconstruction anything like combating organized crime?

Yes and no. What I'm dealing with mostly is mismanagement — less criminality and more mismanagement.

Now there's a lot of fraud, and actually there's probably more fraud, and it's more difficult in Afghanistan than even in Iraq, because in Iraq you were mainly dealing with U.S. contractors.

In Afghanistan, we have a policy of Afghan first, to try to encourage Afghan companies. So you're using a lot of Afghan contractors and subcontractors. We have no treaty to extradite. We have a very poorly run and corrupt Ministry of Justice, attorney general's office and judiciary (in Afghanistan). So it's very difficult for us to reach out and grab a contractor or subcontractor.

How can the United States oversee reconstruction efforts without U.S. troops protecting the monitors?

The answer is setting up some type of third-party monitoring system. This isn't rocket science.



BILL O'LEARY/The Washington Post

John Sopko, special inspector general for Afghanistan reconstruction, speaks March 25 in Arlington, Va.

This has been done before. What we're saying is U.S. government, get your act together and develop a system. It's not our job to tell you how to develop it. You've done this before in Somalia or Iraq or Pakistan or wherever else. But get it in place. And why haven't you put it in place three years ago? You knew this is where we were going. Only now are they starting to let contractors for third-party monitoring.

But you've said third-party monitors have misled the United States in the past.

Maybe you have to use two or three different ones.

We started talking to [U.S. agencies], we started talking to the U.N., we talked to the World Bank, the Brits, the Canadians, and said, "How do you do it?" Everyone had a different model, a different way of doing it. So we held a symposium ... and said come in and let's talk about third-party monitoring in Afghanistan. Let's share best practices. Part of this was to get the U.S. government agencies to talk to each other and talk to the Europeans and the U.N. and share, because they're the ones that have to do this.

Taliban abduct Afghan provincial candidate

By RAHIM FAIEZ
AND AMIR SHAH
The Associated Press

KABUL — Taliban gunmen abducted a candidate running for a seat in a provincial council in northern Afghanistan and seven members of his entourage, offi-

cials said Monday.

Insurgent attacks elsewhere in the country killed 18 people, part of a spike in violence in the weeks leading up to Saturday's election. Afghans will go to the polls to choose a new president to replace Hamid Karzai and also elect members for its provincial councils.

The Taliban have vowed to use force to disrupt the vote, and last week barged the election commission headquarters in Kabul with machine-gun fire and rocket-propelled grenades.

Candidate Hussain Nazari and seven others were taken overnight as they were traveling in

a taxi to Sar-i-Pul, capital of the province of the same name. They had no security escort with them, according to Governor Abdul Jabar Haquebeen.

The governor said elders in the area were trying to negotiate with the Taliban to get Nazari and the others released.

Stay connected to
your military community,
no matter how far you are from home.

News, information and more — 24/7

stripes.com STARS AND STRIPES

MILITARY

Iconic status conferred on Vietnam POWs

By CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — At the tail end of the American entanglement in Vietnam, a war-weary and divided nation was looking for something — anything — to feel good about.

The 591 military POWs released by North Vietnam in early 1973 were it.

"We were a plus — a bright spot for the country," said Tom Hanton, an Air Force fighter pilot freed in late March that year after being held for nine months in Hanoi.

But in the days before "thank you for your service" had become an everyday salutation, the acclaim often didn't spread further, even though millions of American troops served in Southeast Asia. The enthusiastic welcome home, punctuated by patriotic parades and speeches, was gratifying but left some feeling slightly uneasy.

"Looking back on it, we as POWs were treated as the only heroes of the Vietnam War," said Hanton, now president of the Association of Vietnam War POWs.

"The others — the guys slugging it out in the jungle — generally didn't get treated as heroes," he said. "That was unfair."

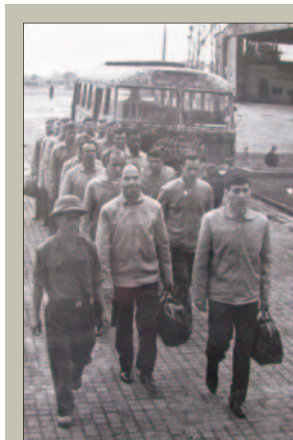
The country's attitude represented a remarkable U-turn compared to previous wars. Never before had prisoners of war taken on the iconic status conferred on them during the war in Vietnam.

Changing attitudes

In earlier years, the nation had broadly regarded POWs as unpleasant realities of conflict and sometimes even as representations of cowardice or failure, said Northwestern University historian Michael J. Allen.

"There's a long tradition in western military history to think of prisoners as having failed, or of being signs of weakness," said Allen, author of "Until the Last Man Comes Home," a history of the POW/MIA movement. "After Vietnam, however, the returning POWs were very much regarded as heroes and given particular honors and awards to recognize their imprisonment and suffering."

While the prisoners languished in Vietnamese captivity for years and suffered brutal torture, star-



Courtesy of the U.S. Army



MAI NAM, PIONEER NEWSPAPER/AP



GEORGE BRICK/AP

From left: Vietnam POWs in North Korea walk from a bus to a C-141 and then to freedom; an American F-105 warplane is shot down, and the pilot ejects and opens his parachute in September 1966 near Vinh Phuc, north of Hanoi; and Lyndall Gutterson, 9, jumps for joy as his father, Col. Laird Gutterson, a POW in Vietnam for more than five years, embraces his wife, Virginia, upon arrival at March Air Force Base, Calif., on March 17, 1973.

vation and isolation, a mass movement and letter-writing campaign was revving up focused on their welfare.

Many believe the Nixon administration sought to use the frightful experiences of the POWs as ammunition to tar the anti-war movement. Parts of that movement — famously including celebrities who paraded through Hanoi to meet with POWs — were likewise prone to using the prisoners as political props.

From whatever political angle it came, the intense focus on POWs steadily elevated the issue until bringing home the POWs ended up at the top of the popular agenda of war aims.

"In the end, what Nixon tried to do completely backfired on him because he had created such a base of support for these men in the United States," Allen said. "By the end of the war, he was argu-

ing, 'We can't pull out of the war simply to win the release of 500-plus men.'"

The missing

Once the 1973 Operation Homecoming was over, many former POW supporters shifted course slightly to focus on thousands of U.S. servicemen missing in action in Southeast Asia.

It was a painful political issue that would linger for decades amid accusations of abandonment by government bureaucrats eager to leave the Vietnam War in the past. The charge was aired in Congressional hearing rooms as well as on the big screen, where actors Chuck Norris and Sylvester Stallone led fictional missions to rescue POWs held long after the war.

Reports of white prisoners who were spotted in communist prisons in Southeast Asia, or of shadowy wartime transfers of American officers to Russia in exchange for military assistance, fueled the passion of activists. They include former POW and Navy A-6 pilot Eugene "Red" McDaniel, who was shot down in May 1967 during a bombing mission.

McDaniel's "backseater" for the mission was Lt. James K. Patterson. Both were in radio contact with U.S. forces after bailing out, but American rescuers were unable to reach either man before capture. McDaniel returned home with the 591 troops released in 1973, but Patterson seems

to have simply disappeared.

For decades, McDaniel has suspected that the military and U.S. government knows more than it's letting on about Patterson and the more than 1,500 Americans still listed as missing in action from Vietnam. He argued for the release of classified records that he believes would prove a cover-up.

"If I had known when I was in a prison camp what I know now about all of this, I don't believe I'd have made it," McDaniel said.

Changing the military

In the war in Korea, a number of captured troops were said to have been "brainwashed" by communist propaganda. The result was the famous Code of Conduct, and it was drilled into troops that they were "bound" to give nothing more than basic identifying information to captors.

But the experience of POWs in Vietnam would change the military's attitude to captivity.

A few heroic POWs died following the code to the letter as they faced an organized torture program in North Vietnamese prison camps. Most found it impossible to fully resist torture, however, and senior POWs modified the code, sending out the word to simply resist as much as possible.

After release, ranking POWs

worked with the Pentagon to modify the code to reflect

what had been learned in the communist prisons of Vietnam. Some changes were subtle — "I am bound to give name, rank, service number and date of birth" was shifted to the less dire, "I am required to give..." — but it meant plenty to former POWs.

"The word 'required' says you give them as little as you can," said Mike McGrath, a Naval Aviator captured in 1967 and severely tortured. "The word 'bound' means you're going to die."

The war in Vietnam had another deep psychological effect on the collective military psyche, reflected in greater dedication to recover the bodies of those lost in combat, Allen said.

As a result of Vietnam, he said, there's a more comprehensive effort to recover MIA troops from World War II, for instance, than there was immediately following the war. Echoes of Vietnam affect current operations as well, he said.

"It's grown ... to the point there have been firefights simply to recover dead soldiers," Allen said. "That's a result of a mythos that has grown in the all-volunteer force, that the military will not allow the civilian leadership to abandon it as it believes it was abandoned in Vietnam. The recovery of human remains is an expression of that idea."

carroll.chris@stripes.com
Twitter: @ChrisCarroll



In earlier years, the nation had broadly regarded POWs as unpleasant realities of conflict and sometimes even as representations of cowardice or failure.

EUROPE



JAMIE COSBY/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush, bottom, transits alongside the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman in the Gulf of Aden. The George H.W. Bush is taking over support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

Truman strike group heads home from Mideast mission

By HENDRICK SIMOES
Stars and Stripes

MANAMA, Bahrain — The USS Harry S. Truman strike group has completed its Middle East mission, and the end of its lengthy deployment is in sight.

The group, which includes the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman, two guided-missile cruisers and two guided-missile destroyers, transited the Suez Canal on Saturday into the Mediterranean Sea after spending seven months in the 5th Fleet area of responsibility, the Navy said. The ships may stop at some liberty ports on the way back to the United States.

"Despite the many security challenges throughout the Middle East, the Truman Strike Group demonstrated America's commitment to this region and certainly enhanced the level of

trust and confidence our partners have with us," Rear Adm. Kevin Sweeney, commander of the carrier strike group, said in a news release.

The Norfolk-based Truman deployed in July on a scheduled deployment of eight to nine months. It arrived in the Middle East in August during the height of tensions with Syria over use of chemical weapons.

The flattop spent five weeks conducting carrier operations with the French carrier Charles de Gaulle. During combined operations, U.S. F/A-18 Hornets and Super Hornets landed and launched from the French carrier, while French Rafale fighters did the same from the Truman — a rare occurrence that took more than a year of planning.

While in the 5th Fleet the Truman conducted more than 2,900

sorties in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Capt. Robert Roth, commander of the USS Truman, said in a note posted on the ship's Facebook page.

"The ship and air wing's knack for operating seamlessly with one another is a testament to the focus, commitment and resolve of your Sailors and Marines, which ultimately enabled us to support the coalition troops on the ground in Afghanistan," Roth wrote. "I could not be more proud of such a talented and amazing crew!"

After a slight delay, the USS George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group has replaced the Truman in the Middle East.

The Pentagon held it up in the Mediterranean Sea for a few days to reassure allies amid the turmoil in Ukraine.

simoes.hendrick@stripes.com
Twitter: @hendricksimoes

Pentagon report: Better ordnance safeguards needed

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY
Stars and Stripes

The Navy needs to tighten safeguards in tracking shore-based ordnance, a Pentagon watchdog report released Thursday says.

The Defense Department Inspector General determined that while the Navy system for tracking more than 300 million pieces of ordnance — ranging from Tomahawk missiles to gun ammunition — was ready for audit, the lack of internal controls in several areas was a concern.

In one case, inspectors found an employee with access to both physical ordnance and the inventory list that accounts for it, duties that should be separated. In another, they found that a husband and wife who worked, respectively, in the storage area and inventory control for the same ordnance.

Both situations created opportunities for someone to take ordnance and then change the master list to conceal it, the

report says.

"The Navy should ensure that such duties are not only segregated by function, but also reviewed to avoid potential conflict of interest situations," the inspector general says.

Navy personnel later reassigned the husband and wife so they didn't have direct communication over the same ordnance.

Inspectors worked off the Department of the Navy's Ordnance Information System to randomly check for the existence of about 25 million pieces, the completeness of just under 2 million pieces and the "rights and obligations" of about 26 million pieces.

Ordnance outside the United States and on ships and submarines weren't included in the checks.

The military is working to be fully auditable by 2017, as required by Congress in its fiscal 2010 defense authorization bill.

beardsley.steven@stripes.com
Twitter: @sjbeardsley



JONATHAN SUNDERMAN/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Barry launches a Tomahawk cruise missile in 2011. The Defense Department Inspector General said in a new report that the Navy needs to tighten safeguards in tracking shore-based ordnance.

Army health center in Italy considers civilian service cuts

NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — The Army health center here is considering reducing services to Defense Department civilians, especially those with chronic conditions, officials said this week.

Civilians such as teachers, contractors and others not covered by Tricare, the Army's insurer, would in the future be less likely to be seen by Army doctors at

the health center, said Col. Andrew Barr, the health center commander.

In particular, Barr said, those with chronic health conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure would likely be "transitioned" to local Italian doctors.

"Nonbeneficiaries have been calling (for appointments) and basically competing with Tricare beneficiaries," he said.

Last week, the health center announced on Facebook that there

are space-available appointments for civilians. Barr said that was temporary, and that civilians could still attempt to make same-day appointments.

Civilians with health insurers other than Tricare have long been seen at the Vicenza facility on a space-available basis after patients with priority — active-duty troops, their families and retirees.

Barr said new plans had been finalized but that growing

numbers of patients — along with no staffing increases — meant changes were coming.

Barr said the move to same-day appointments for civilians meant that those with chronic conditions probably would be transitioned to local Italian doctors.

"The problem is day-to-day I can't guarantee you'll have an appointment," he said.

The group of people affected will likely number "in the low hundreds," Barr said.

According to the Vicenza garrison, there are nearly 3,700 civilians in the community, although how many of them were not covered by Tricare was unclear.

Barr said six English-speaking Vicenza family practitioners had agreed to see American patients.

The plan comes a month after an announcement that the center was to cease providing maternity care because of reduced funding.

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com

MILITARY

Navy chaplain mourned in Naples

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy—Chaplain John Keith often led memorial services from the chapel at the Navy base here, reading scripture, offering guidance and comforting family.

Members of this small military community returned the favor Friday, filling pews in the same chapel to remember Keith, who died last weekend in the Naples area following complications from surgery.

They praised the lieutenant commander and deputy base chaplain as a caring leader with a positive outlook and steady moral compass.

"In a world of few good men, John Keith was a truly good man,"



Keith

Capt. Scott Gray, base commander, told the audience.

Keith, 49, of Irvine, Calif., died early March 22 in an Italian hospital in Castel Volturno.

He had been transferred there from the nearby Naval hospital in Grigignano, where he had arrived Friday night complaining of pain, according to several base officials.

Speakers on Friday recalled Keith's devotion to his congregation, his pride in family and his

love of San Francisco 49ers football. They remembered his final sermon, on remaining faithful during difficult times.

Keith's wife, Regina, said her husband was upbeat in the weeks before his death.

Endorsed by the Southern Baptist Convention, Keith came to Naples in August 2012 with roughly nine years of experience as a chaplain, much of it with Marines in Okinawa, according to a biography provided by the base chaplain office. He deployed with a Marine unit to Sri Lanka in 2005 to aid tsunami victims, to Kuwait in 2006 as part of the Iraq War and with a carrier air wing in 2010 as part of the Afghanistan War.

Keith worked as a retail sales manager for 10 years before he

was ordained as a minister in California in 1996. He worked as a counselor for abused children and then served as pastor in several churches in the Irvine area.

His wife was with him when he died. An adult son, Jonathan, was in California at the time, while a younger son, Josh, was away traveling with a high school sports team.

Friday, one of Keith's friends imagined what the chaplain would say if he had led his own memorial.

"I believe that, if he could, he would use this moment as an opportunity to reassure us," said Tom DiRivera. "He'd say, 'Don't be afraid, it's OK, we'll see each other again.'"

beardsley.steven@stripes.com

Entries for VFW essays are sought

By MICHAEL S. DARNELL
Stars and Stripes

The Veterans of Foreign Wars is accepting submissions for its annual Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen scholarship essay contests.

The Voice of Democracy winner will be awarded the \$30,000 T.C. Selman Memorial Scholarship, while the top entry in the Patriot's Pen contest will be given \$5,000 and all expenses paid trip to Washington.

The Voice of Democracy scholarships are offered by the VFW as a way for the veteran's organization to promote patriotism among the nation's youth. Each year, dozens of students receive scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$30,000. Last year, VFW posts across the globe gave away \$3 million worth of scholarship funds.

"I think it's important to instill the value of patriotism in this generation and the next and to continue teaching the heritage of our nation," said Kevin Jones, the VFW programs director. "This is a way to continue to honor those who served."

The Voice of Democracy competition is aimed at students in the 9th through 12th grades and entries must be submitted in both written and spoken-word essay form. The spoken-word essay must be recorded to a CD and submitted with the text of the speech. This year, the essay's theme is "Why veterans are important to our nation's history and future."

Students in grades six through eight who want to enter the Patriot's Pen competition must submit an essay of 300 to 400 words in which they explain why they appreciate America's veterans. Both competitions are open to Defense Department schools students and approved home-schooled students.

Amethyst Rorie, then a sophomore at Ramstein High School, Germany, and Kenneth Svoboda, then a senior at Zama High School at Camp Zama, Japan, each won \$1,000 in last year's competition. Several middle school students sponsored by VFW posts in Europe and the Pacific also received some scholarship money from the Patriot's Pen competition.

All entries must be submitted to a local VFW post no later than Nov. 1. More information can be found on the VFW website: <http://www.vfw.org/Community/Programs/>.

darnell.michael@stripes.com

Kidnapping treaty set to take effect

By CHIYOMI SUMIDA
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa—A treaty aimed at preventing cross-border parental kidnapping takes effect Tuesday in Japan after years of pressure from the international community.

The Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction—which was first ratified in 1980—requires a parent who flees with a child to another country to evade a custody dispute to return that child to his or her home of habitual residence.

In recent years, child custody disputes have become a larger problem in Japan. As of 2012, there were more than 190 known cases in which foreign governments have urged Japan to return children who were abducted to Japan by their Japanese parents.

An additional 80 cases have been reported in which children were taken out of Japan by their non-Japanese parents, according to a report compiled by the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense at the House of Councilors.

Japan ratified the treaty in January.

Becoming a signatory of the pact obligates Japan to provide assistance in locating the child and, if possible, to achieve a voluntary return of the child or an amicable resolution of the dispute.

The treaty will not be applied to the cases to return children who have been already in Japan after being removed from their original residence.

However, the government will assist parents who seek to gain access to their children in Japan, according to a spokesman for the Hague Convention Affairs Office of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

sumida.chiyomi@stripes.com



ALEXANDER HILL/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

Training in Spain

U.S. Marines of Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Crisis Response conduct helicopter rope suspension training at Moron Air Base, Spain, on Thursday. The training maintains and enhances the task force's ability to rapidly respond to a broad range of crises throughout the U.S. Africa Command area of responsibility.

YES

Click today...cash today!
www.militaryloans.com



"We love to say yes."

MILITARY



PHOTOS BY LISA TOURTELROT/Stars and Stripes

Army and Marine Corps veterans attend the 19th annual Reunion of Honor March 19 on Iwo Jima, Japan.

Reunion of Honor brings 8 veterans back to Iwo Jima

By LISA TOURTELROT
Stars and Stripes

IWO JIMA, Japan—Eight U.S. veterans recently returned to the scene of one of the bloodiest battles of World War II as part of the 19th annual Reunion of Honor ceremony on Iwo Jima.

For 36 days in 1945, U.S. Marines and soldiers battled 20,000 dug-in Japanese soldiers for control of the remote island, which America wanted to secure for its strategic location and the use of its runway for bombing runs. At the end of the fighting, more than 6,800 Americans and 18,000 Japanese troops had fallen.

Each year since 1995, retired Lt. Gen. Lawrence Snowden, a veteran of the battle, has organized the Reunion of Honor tour, which has hosted veterans and descendants from both sides of the battle to honor the sacrifices

See more photos and video from the Reunion of Honor ceremony
stripes.com/go/reunion

made on the black sand island. This year, the event was held on March 19.

Dignitaries and distinguished guests laid wreaths on their respective sides of the Reunion of Honor memorial, and the Japanese guests also performed a traditional water blessing on the site.

In a smaller ceremony, two men quietly laid to rest a 69-year chapter in their lives.

Owen Agenbroad, a Marine veteran of the battle, found Yoshi-kazu Higuichi, the son of a Japanese soldier who fought and died on Iwo Jima. A few weeks after Agenbroad had been on the is-land, he found a Japanese straight

razor, shaving kit and tin cup in a Japanese fighting position, or pill box.

Agenbroad kept the items in a shadowbox in his Dayton, Idaho, home for decades before he had the writing on the razor translated. A few contacts with Japanese government officials later, and Agenbroad had found Higuichi, a retired school principal.

The men spoke briefly through a translator, Higuichi smiling and thanking Agenbroad for bringing those pieces of his father home.

"We are bound by a common history and common values," Snowden said. "Our countries have overcome a difficult past to embracing a promising future."

For more information about the Reunion of Honor, or to support the living Iwo Jima veterans, visit iwojimaassociation.org.

tourtelrot.lisa@stripes.com



Owen Agenbroad, a veteran of the battle for Iwo Jima, holds up items he collected on the battlefield in 1945 before Reunion of Honor ceremony. Through research, Agenbroad found Yoshi-kazu Higuichi, the son of the Japanese soldier to whom the items originally belonged, and returned them.



American military and Japanese Ground Self Defense Forces join together at the Reunion of Honor.



A wreath adorns a memorial site on Iwo Jima.

Recovery: New DOD plan should reduce duplication efforts, improve transparency

FROM FRONT PAGE

Hagel in February directed Michael Lumpkin, acting under secretary for policy, to develop a plan to consolidate various Defense Department organizations charged with identifying and recovering remains of U.S. servicemembers lost in past conflicts.

The plan should aim to create a centralized database of missing personnel, and reduce the duplication of efforts across DOD agen-

cies while improving transparency for families, Hagel ordered at the time in a memo obtained by Stars and Stripes.

Among the revelations, Stars and Stripes in January obtained internal JPAC communications alleging that the agencies' Central Identification Laboratory personnel had been involved in the desecration and mishandling of remains, failure to keep critical records, excavation of incor-

rect sites, and waste of taxpayer funds on duplicate efforts. Earlier, the newspaper reported charges that JPAC and DPMO officials ignored leads, prematurely declared MIAs deceased as unrecoverable and argued against identifying unknown remains in government custody when evidence suggested they could be identified.

As reported by Stars and Stripes earlier this year, the French national crime laboratory identified

the remains of a U.S. soldier buried in a German cemetery after JPAC refused to exhume and test the remains, citing DOD policy. Among other revelations, in October, the Pentagon acknowledged that JPAC had been holding phony remains arrival ceremonies for seven years. And in July last year, The Associated Press reported that a JPAC internal study of its operations concluded that the DOD's effort to account for the

tens of thousands of Americans missing in action were so incompetent and mismanaged that it risks descending from "dysfunction to total failure."

According to a Government Accountability Office audit released in July, failures of leadership and bureaucratic tussles plague Pentagon recovery and identification efforts.

carroll.chris@stripes.com
Twitter: @ChrisCarroll

NATION

Health care website stumbles on last day

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Affordable Care Act health care website stumbled early Monday, falling out of service for nearly four hours on deadline day for sign-ups. After it was fixed, officials played ahead with a nationwide promotional drive, almost like getting out the vote on Election Day.

Early visitors to HealthCare.gov on Monday morning saw messages that the site was down for maintenance. At times the visitors were also directed to a virtual waiting room — a feature designed to ease the strain on the site during periods of heavy use.

Administration spokesman Aaron Albright said the website was brought back up shortly before 9 a.m., Eastern time. People who missed their window sign up may still

be able to take advantage of a grace period and other special extensions announced last week.

Albright said the site undergoes “regular nightly maintenance” during off-peak hours and that period was extended because of a “technical problem.” He did not say what the problem was, but a statement from the Department of Health and Human Services called it a “software bug” unrelated to application volume.

Albright said consumers who left an email address would be “invited back” when the system got up and running again.

Officials said the website wasn't hacked. The site, which was receiving 1.5 million visitors a day last week, received about 1.7 million on Sunday. The federal site serves 36 states. Fourteen states and the District of Columbia are running their own sites, some

of which have been crippled by technical problems and other special extensions announced last week.

Nonetheless, the administration and the states appear to be on track to sign up about 6.5 million people for subsidized private health insurance through the new online markets. That's halfway between a revised goal of 6 million and the original target of 7 million. The earlier goal was scaled back after the website's disastrous launch last fall, which kept it off-line during most of October.

It is unclear how many consumers who have signed up ultimately closed the deal by paying their first month's premium. Also unknown is how many were previously uninsured — the real test of the health care overhaul law.

Albright said Monday morning that the website is typically down for maintenance

during the period from 1 to 5 a.m. EDT, and that as a result of the technical problems the site was down for close to four additional hours before returning to full strength.

The sign-up website had been taken down briefly Friday, with consumer interest surging.

With long lines reported at centers offering in-person assistance to enroll, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius was leading the deadline day sign-up effort. Sebelius planned to spend much of the day Monday working out of the department's TV studio, conducting interviews by satellite with local media stations around the country.

Although March 31 was the last day officially to sign up, millions of people were potentially eligible for extensions granted by the administration for various reasons.

GM, safety agency face Congress over recalls

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The part costs less than \$10 wholesale. The fix takes less than an hour. A mechanic removes a few screws and connectors, takes off a plastic shroud, pops in the new switch, and the driver is back on the road.

It's relatively cheap and easy to replace the flawed ignition switch that has been blamed for at least 13 deaths, including a fatal June 2013 crash in Quebec newly linked to the defect. Yet General Motors waited more than a decade before recalling 2.6 million Chevrolet Cobalts and other small cars.

GM's failure to alert consumers sooner could end up costing the automaker hundreds of millions of dollars in fines and much more in reputational damage. It has already cost the lives of the drivers, who perished at least in part because the faulty switches suddenly shut off their cars, stiffening brakes and power steering and disabling air bags.

With so much at stake, why didn't GM act sooner?

The answer, according to many people familiar with the automaker, is a corporate culture reluctant to pass along bad news. When GM was struggling to cut costs and buff its image, a recall of its popular small cars would have been a terrible setback. By the time GM engineers began to face up to the potential gravity of the defect, the Great Recession had hit and the company was begging Congress for a taxpayer bailout that would bring its financial life back.

“It's pretty clear that somebody somewhere was being penny-wise and pound-foolish,” said Marina Whitman, a professor at the University of Michigan and a former economist at GM. “It's hard to find an explanation for why somebody didn't do something about something that was known for a good decade.”

Whatever the explanation, the price of inaction for GM is sure to be significant. The company is being sued by trial lawyers in several states and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

is investigating. Meanwhile, both the House and the Senate have scheduled hearings for this week.

In preparation for those sessions, set to begin Tuesday, congressional investigators have been poring over 235,000 pages of documents supplied by NHTSA regulators and GM. They say they are troubled by what they have learned.

In 2007, a NHTSA official recommended opening a formal investigation of complaints and other evidence of Cobalt and Saturn Ion air bags not deploying, according to a memo released Sunday by Republican investigators in the

House. The idea was rejected two months later by a panel of NHTSA officials who did not detect a trend in the evidence they reviewed. Meanwhile, there were more crashes, more lawsuits and more settlements, the details shrouded in secrecy. Some victims' families say they want to reopen those settlements now that they know GM delayed taking corrective measures.

“Although we have had the documents for less than a week, they paint an unsettling picture,” said a joint statement issued Sunday by House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Fred Upton, R-Mich., and the chairman of the investigations subcommittee, Tim Murphy, R-Pa., who are spearheading the House inquiry.

GM also is facing a federal criminal probe. Some analysts say prosecutors could seek penalties similar to the \$1.2 billion fine the Justice Department recently levied on Toyota for allegedly lying to the public about an unintended acceleration problem that led to the recall of many models.



RUSSELL CONTRERAS/AP

Riot police launch tear gas toward activists in downtown Albuquerque, N.M., on Sunday. Hundreds of people angry over recent police shootings clashed with police during a 10-hour protest in the city.

Protesters clash with police in Albuquerque over shootings

By RUSSELL CONTRERAS
The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Hundreds of protesters angry over recent Albuquerque police shootings clashed with riot officers for more than 10 hours, calling on the police chief and other city officials to resign.

Gas canisters were thrown outside police headquarters and at one point protesters trapped police in a vehicle and tried to break its windows. Mayor Richard Berry said Sunday that one officer was injured during the protest.

Bernalillo County sheriff's deputies charging at the protesters late Sunday mostly dispersed the crowds.

Video by KRQE-TV showed people being led away in zip-tie restraints, but it's unclear if those people were arrested or if any protesters were injured. Multiple messages left with police weren't

immediately returned.

“We respected their rights to protest, obviously,” Berry said. “But what it appears we have at this time is individuals who weren't connected necessarily with the original protest. They've taken it far beyond a normal protest.”

Protesters took to the streets in the early afternoon and stayed out late Sunday after authorities decided to hold an unlawful assembly. The outrage bubbled over because of Albuquerque police's involvement in 37 shootings, 23 of them fatal since 2010. Critics say that's far too many for a department serving a city of about 555,000.

The protesters repeatedly marched the 2 miles from downtown Albuquerque to the University of New Mexico, snarling traffic.

Albuquerque police in riot gear and New Mexico State Police followed the marchers, and protesters shouted epithets at officers.

At one point, a protester climbed a tall street sign on the city's historic Route 66 and unsuccessfully attempted to bring it down.

Protester Alexander Siderits, 23, said he was participating because he was “fed up” with how police treat citizens. “It has reached a boiling point, and people just can't take it anymore,” he said.

The U.S. Justice Department has been investigating the police department for more than a year, looking into complaints of civil rights violations and allegations of excessive use of force.

The gathering came days after a YouTube video emerged threatening retaliation for a homeless man who was fatally shot by police in the foothills of the Sandia Mountains on the east side of Albuquerque. The March shooting was captured on video and followed a long standoff. The FBI has opened an investigation into it.

NATION

Senate torture report examines bin Laden hunt

By BRADLEY KLAPPER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A hotly disputed Senate torture report concludes that waterboarding and other harsh interrogation methods provided no key evidence in the hunt for Osama bin Laden, according to congressional aides and outside experts familiar with the investigation.

The CIA still disputes that conclusion.

From the moment of bin Laden's death almost three years ago in what was America's biggest

counterterrorism success, former Bush administration and some senior CIA officials have cited the evidence trail leading to the al-Qaida mastermind's compound in Pakistan as vindicating the "enhanced interrogation techniques" they authorized after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

But Democratic and some Republican senators have disputed that account. They described simulated drownings, sleep deprivation and other such practices as cruel and ineffective. With the release edging closer for the Senate Intelligence Committee's report on interrogations, renditions and detentions, they hope to make a persuasive case.

The report, congressional aides and outside experts said, examines the treatment of several high-level terror detainees and the information they provided on bin Laden. The aides and people briefed on the report spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the confidential document.

The most high-profile detainee linked to the bin Laden investigation was Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, whom the CIA waterboarded 183 times, Mohammed, intelligence officials have noted, confirmed after his 2003 capture that he knew an important al-Qaida

courier with the nom de guerre Abu Ahmed al-Kuwaiti.

But the report concludes that such information wasn't critical, according to the aides. Mohammed discussed al-Kuwaiti months after being waterboarded, while he was under standard interrogation, they said. And Mohammed neither acknowledged al-Kuwaiti's significance nor provided interrogators with the courier's real name.

The debate over how investigators put the pieces together is significant because years later, the courier led U.S. intelligence to the sleepy Pakistani military town of Abbottabad. There, Navy SEALs killed bin Laden in a secret mission.

The CIA also has pointed to the value of information provided by senior al-Qaida operative Abu Faraj al-Libi, who was captured in 2005 and was held at a secret prison.

U.S. officials have described how al-Libi made up a name for a trusted courier and denied knowing al-Kuwaiti. Al-Libi, they said, was so adamant and unbelievable in his denial that the CIA took it as confirmation he and Mohammed were protecting the courier. But the report concludes evidence gathered from al-Libi wasn't significant either, the aides said.

The aides did not address information provided by yet another al-Qaida operative — Hassan Ghul, captured in Iraq in 2004. Intelligence officials have described Ghul as the true linchpin of the bin Laden investigation after he identified al-Kuwaiti as a critical courier.

In a 2012 news release, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., the head of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., acknowledged an unidentified "third detainee" had provided relevant information on the courier. They said he did so the day before he was subjected to harsh CIA interrogation. "This information will be detailed in the Intelligence committee's report," the senators said at the time.



ANNIE MULLIGAN, THE (EVERETT, WASH.) HERALD/AP

Rescue workers take a break from their efforts at the mudslide site in Darrington, Wash., on Sunday.

Wash. mudslide toll rises to 21

By JONATHAN J. COOPER
AND LISA BAUMANN
The Associated Press

DARRINGTON, Wash. — Authorities say the number of people who have been confirmed dead from a U.S. mudslide has increased to 21 from 18.

Jason Biermann, of Snohomish County Emergency Management, said Sunday that 15 victims have been identified by the county medical examiner. Six have yet to be identified.

Biermann said another four bodies were found in the debris field on Sunday.

About 30 people remain missing after the massive mudslide in a mountainside community in Washington state on March 22.

Late Saturday, authorities said the number of people believed missing decreased substantially, from 90 to 30.

Rescue crews said Sunday that many of the dogs that have been essential in the search for victims will take a two-day break. Days of sniffing through cold, soupy mud and nearly nonstop rain have taken their toll on the animals, and officials say dogs can lose their sensing ability if they work too long.

Dogs from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, more recent arrivals on the scene, will continue working, said Heidi Amrine, another spokeswoman for the operation.

Engineers were watching for any material sloughing off the

landslide area, making sure that a weekend of torrential rainfall doesn't displace more land.

Meanwhile, many residents attended church services for solace ahead of another week of recovery efforts.

Underscoring the difficulty of identifying those killed in one of the deadliest landslides in U.S. history, Biermann said crews are not always discovering complete remains.

Searchers have had to contend with treacherous conditions.

The search area has septic tanks, gasoline, propane tanks and other hazards. When rescuers and search dogs leave, they're hosed off by hazardous materials crews.

No national system to track slide hazards

By PHUONG LE
AND GOSIA WOZNIAK
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — People living in the path of a deadly Washington state landslide had virtually no warning before a wall of mud, trees and other debris thundered down the mountain. Some of the homeowners didn't even know the hillside could give way at any time.

Unlike the warning systems and elaborate maps that help residents and officials prepare for natural disasters such as floods and hurricanes, there's no national system to monitor slide

activity and no effort underway to produce detailed nationwide landslide hazard maps.

The U.S. Geological Survey doesn't track or inventory slide areas on a national scale, despite an ambitious plan to do so more than a decade ago when Congress directed it to come up with a national strategy to reduce landslide losses.

That's left states and communities to put together a patchwork of maps showing landslide hazards. In some cases, they are discovering that more buildings than previously thought are sitting on unstable ground. Even then, that

information may not make its way to property owners.

Building a nationwide system is now possible with new technology, experts say, but would require spending tens of millions of dollars annually and could take more than a decade to complete with the help of states and cities. So far, there has been little public outcry for faster, concerted action.

"No one has pushed it, and it hasn't been a priority," said Scott Burns, a geology professor at Portland State University. "It's costly to monitor it, and we don't want to pay for it."

"Sundance for the Troops..."

- Bloomberg

SINCE 1976, OVER 48 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE SERVED IN THE AMERICAN MILITARY. WE TELL THEIR STORIES.

SEE THEIR STORIES THIS MAY AT THE 8TH ANNUAL GI FILM FESTIVAL.



With special guests **ADAM DRIVER, RICKY SCHRODER** and **GARY SINISE!**

GIFF14

COMING TO ALEXANDRIA & DC

MAY 19 - 25

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

Real Stories. Real Heroes!

For more information, please visit:

GIFILMFESTIVAL.COM

WORLD

Koreas trade fire across maritime border

BY HYUNG-JIN KIM
AND JUNG-YOON CHOI
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North and South Korea fired hundreds of artillery shells into each other's waters Monday in a flare-up of animosity that forced residents of five front-line South Korean islands to evacuate to shelters for several hours, South Korean officials said.

The exchange of fire into the Yellow Sea followed Pyongyang's sudden announcement that it would conduct live-fire drills in seven areas north of the Koreas' disputed maritime boundary. North Korea routinely test-fires artillery and missiles into the ocean but rarely discloses those plans in advance. The announcement was seen as an expression of Pyongyang's frustration at making little progress in its recent push to win outside aid.

North Korea fired 500 rounds of artillery shells over more than three hours, about 100 of which fell south of the sea boundary, South Korean Defense Ministry spokesman Kim Min-seok said. South Korea responded by firing 300 shells into North Korean waters, he said.

No shells from either side were fired at



AIN YOUNG-JOON/AP

North Korea fired 500 rounds of artillery, 100 of which fell into South Korean waters, as part of a drill on Monday, prompting the South to fire back, according to officials.

any land or military installations, but Kim called the North's artillery firing a provocation aimed at testing Seoul's security posture. There was no immediate comment from North Korea.

In Washington, White House spokesman Jonathan Lalley called North Korea's ac-

tions "dangerous and provocative" and said they would further aggravate tensions in the region.

Monday's exchange was relatively mild in the history of animosity and violence between the Koreas, but there is worry in Seoul that an increasingly dissatisfied

North Korea could repeat the near-daily barrage of war rhetoric it carried out last spring, when tensions soared as Pyongyang threatened nuclear strikes on Washington and Seoul in response to condemnation of its third nuclear test.

Residents on front-line South Korean islands spent several hours in shelters during the firing, and officials temporarily halted ferry service linking the islands to the mainland.

The poorly marked western sea boundary has been the scene of several bloody naval skirmishes between the Koreas in recent years. In March 2010, a South Korean warship sank in the area following a torpedo attack blamed on Pyongyang that left 46 sailors dead. North Korea denies responsibility for the sinking. In November 2010, a North Korean artillery bombardment killed four South Koreans on Yeonpyeong.

The North has gradually dialed down its threats since last year's tirade and has sought improved ties with South Korea in what foreign analysts say is an attempt to lure investment and aid. There has been no major breakthrough, however, with Washington and Seoul calling on the North to first take disarmament steps to prove its sincerity about improving ties.

Court orders Japan to stop whaling in Antarctic

BY TOBY STERLING
The Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The International Court of Justice on Monday ordered a temporary halt to Japan's Antarctic whaling program, ruling that it is not for scientific purposes as the Japanese government had claimed.

Australia had sued Japan at the U.N.'s highest court for resolving disputes between nations in hopes of ending whaling in the icy Southern Ocean.

Reading a 12-4 panel of the court's 16-judge panel, Presiding Judge Peter Tomka said Japan's program fails to justify the large number of minke whales it says it needs to catch under its current Antarctic program — 850 annually — and it doesn't catch that many anyway. It also didn't come close to catching the 50 fin and 50 humpback whales it aimed to take.

All that drew into doubt Japan's assertion that its whaling is for scientific purposes, he said.

"The court concludes that the



AP

An International Court of Justice on Monday ordered Japan to temporarily stop its whaling program in the Antarctic.

special permits granted by Japan for the killing, taking and treating of whales ... are not for purposes of scientific research," Tomka said.

The court ordered Japan to halt any issuing of whaling permits at least until the program has been thoroughly revamped.

Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Noriaki Shikata told reporters that the country "regrets and is deeply disappointed" by the decision.

But "as a state that respects the rule of law ... and as a responsible

member of the global community, Japan will abide by the ruling of the court," he said.

Although the decision is a major victory for Australia and environmental groups that oppose whaling on ethical grounds, it will not mean the end of whaling.

Japan has a second, smaller scientific program in the northern Pacific — which now may also be subject to challenge. Meanwhile Norway and Iceland reject outright a 1986 moratorium on commercial whaling imposed by the International Whaling Commission.

Australian PM: Search for jetliner will continue

The Associated Press

PERTH, Australia — The week-long search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 is "an extraordinarily difficult exercise" but it will go on as long as possible, Australia's prime minister said Monday.

Tony Abbott told reporters in Perth, the base for the search, that although no debris has been found in the southern Indian Ocean that can be linked to the plane, searchers are "well, well short" of any point where they would scale the hunt back.

The Boeing 777 disappeared March 8 while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people aboard, and after experts sifted through radar and satellite data, they gradually moved the hunt from seas off Vietnam to areas west of Malaysia and Indonesia, then to several areas west of Australia.

"This is an extraordinarily difficult exercise ... we are searching a vast area of ocean and we are working on quite limited information," Abbott said, adding that the best brains in the world and all the technological mastery is being applied to the task.

He said the search that has

been going on for more than three weeks is operating on "guesstimates" until we locate some actual wreckage from the aircraft and then do the regression analysis that might tell us where the aircraft went into the ocean."

The first planes from Monday's hunt were over the search area about 1,150 miles west of Australia. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority said 10 planes and 10 ships — with more than 100 personnel in the air and 1,000 sailors at sea — will take part, with some sections of the zone expected to experience low clouds and rain.

The aircraft and ships are scouring a search zone that was redefined based on satellite data from the Boeing 777, although after several days no debris has been found that can be linked to the flight, officials say. Only "fishing equipment and other flotsam" have been spotted.

Abbott said he was not putting a time limit on the search. "We owe it to everyone to do whatever we reasonably can and we can keep searching for quite some time to come," he said. "And, as I said, the intensity of our search and the magnitude of operations is increasing, not decreasing."

FREE WEEKLY
Coming to all bases
in Japan!

STARS AND STRIPES
Stripes JAPAN

The latest on travel, culture, restaurants, activities on and off base.

Look for the first issue on April 10

Read online at **Japan.Stripes.com**



WORLD

Kerry in Mideast at critical point in peace process

By MATTHEW LEE
The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Secretary of State John Kerry rushed to the Middle East on Monday for a surprise visit aimed at rescuing his Mideast diplomatic efforts as peace talks approached a critical make-or-break point.

Kerry landed in Israel late Monday before heading to Jerusalem for talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and then to the West Bank town of Ramallah to meet Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Kerry has been working frantically in recent days trying to salvage the embattled peace process. A senior U.S. official said Kerry spoke with Israeli and Palestinian leaders all morning from Paris as well as with the White House before deciding to go back to the region.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the matter with the media.

American mediators have been holding urgent talks to resolve a standoff over a promised Israeli prisoner release and to find a formula to extend the talks beyond a current late-April deadline. If the prisoner release, which was scheduled to happen by the end of March, does not take place, the negotiations risk collapse in the coming weeks.

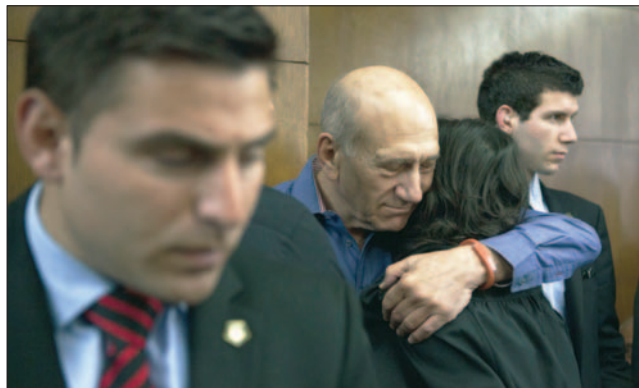
The Palestinian leadership set a meeting to discuss developments Monday evening in the West Bank city of Ramallah. There was no immediate comment from the office of Israel's prime minister.

Under heavy pressure from Kerry, Israel and the Palestinians agreed last July to hold nine months of peace talks, setting a late-April deadline for a final agreement. When that became unrealistic, Kerry scaled back his goals and said he would aim for a preliminary "framework" agreement by April, with the goal of continuing negotiations through the end of the year to iron out the final details of a deal.

Even that more modest goal has run into trouble due to a snag over the prisoner release. When the talks began last summer, Israel promised to free 104 long-serving Palestinian prisoners in four stages. After carrying out the first three releases, Israel has balked at releasing the final group without a Palestinian commitment to extend talks.

Israeli officials say they are under no obligation to carry out the final release because of what they say is a Palestinian failure to negotiate in good faith.

The prisoner issue is deeply emotional on both sides. The Palestinians consider the roughly 5,000 Palestinians held by Israel to be heroes and freedom fighters. Israel considers them terrorists.



DAN BALLETT/AP

Former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert hugs a friend before a hearing Monday at Tel Aviv's District Court. Olmert was convicted of accepting bribes linked to a real estate deal in Jerusalem.

Ex-PM Olmert convicted in bribery

By ARON HELLER
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — An Israeli court on Monday convicted former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert in a wide-ranging bribery case, a verdict that could send him to prison and that crushed his hopes for a political comeback.

The development seals the most serious legal battle that Olmert, 68, has waged since he was forced to step down as prime minister in 2009 amid a flurry of corruption allegations.

It also capped a political career that saw Olmert transform himself from a sharp-tongued backbencher in the hard-line Likud Party into a global statesman whose push for peace with the Palestinians came crashing down due to his legal troubles.

On Monday, the Tel Aviv district court handed down its decision in a Jerusalem real estate scandal case related to Olmert's activities before he became prime minister in 2006.

A total of 13 government officials, developers and other businesspeople were charged in three separate schemes related to the Holyland housing development in Jerusalem, in what was regarded as perhaps the largest corruption scandal ever exposed in Israel.

Sentencing is set for April 28. Legal experts say the conviction will almost certainly entail prison time for Olmert.

According to the original 2012 indictment, millions of dollars illegally changed hands to promote a series of real estate projects, including a controversial housing development in Jerusalem that re-

quired a radical change in zoning laws and earned the developers tax breaks and other benefits.

Olmert was charged for acts committed while he was mayor of Jerusalem and minister of industry and trade. He was accused of taking bribes to push the project forward.

The conviction puts a dramatic end to Olmert's long political career, which was dogged by corruption allegations that — until Monday — rarely stuck.

Without a natural rival to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Olmert was often mentioned as a potential center-left alternative, should he survive his legal woes.

Olmert faces a maximum prison term of seven years. Under Israeli law, he would have to wait at least seven years after serving his sentence to run for office.

Costs of climate change, from energy to poverty, steep but tough to tally

By ELAINE KURTENBACH
The Associated Press

YOKOHAMA, Japan — The economic and financial impact of global warming is complex and not well understood. In some scenarios there would be economic benefits for countries that get warmer and wetter and consequently more fertile agriculturally. Drier weather in some regions would result in sharply lower crop yields.

Overall, changes in climate are expected to cause significant disruptions that also exact an economic toll. Advisers to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change say that the world economy may suffer

losses of between 0.2 percent and 2 percent of income if temperatures rise by 2 degrees from recent levels.

Below are some of the costliest impacts, according to a 49-page summary from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change which met in Yokohama near Tokyo last week.

■ Demand for residential air conditioning in the summer will rise from 300 terawatt hours a year in 2000 to about 4,000 terawatt hours in 2050. Rising incomes will drive most of that rise. Climate change a quarter of it. For comparison, Vietnam currently consumes about 100 terawatt hours of power in a year.

■ Relocation of industries and communities will cost billions of dollars even in wealthy countries. Countries must also reckon with damage to transport infrastructure, homes, industries and agriculture from increasingly extreme weather, droughts and storms, especially in low-lying coastal areas.

■ Wetter weather could yield a windfall of \$3 trillion in the U.S. in the 21st century; drier weather could raise costs by \$13 trillion. Ensuring enough water for industry and other consumption will cost about \$12 billion a year worldwide while development of water supply and provisioning in developing countries will cost \$73 billion.

■ A need for more labor to produce food to offset dropping crop yields could leave fewer workers available for other work. As food becomes more expensive, consumers may shift to cheaper foods but also spend less on other goods and services.

■ Scientists say climate change will worsen poverty, especially in tropical, developing countries, but even in affluent countries. Climate-related diseases such as malaria and diarrhea impair children's cognitive and physical development, while higher child death rates may lead parents to have more children, reducing the amount of money available to care for and educate each child.

STARS AND STRIPES.

Month of the Military Child

Tell us your story!

Send us your stories, poems, drawings and photos to militarychild@stripes.com, and they will appear in the Stripes Pacific community papers and on our special website at stripesrewards.com/militarychild

Sponsored by
Navy Lodge
Atsugi

"The Spirit of Hospitality"



UKRAINE UNREST

NATO commander ordered back to Europe over crisis

MATT MILLHAM
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — America's top general in Europe has been ordered back from Washington to meet with NATO leaders because of growing uncertainty over Russia's intentions in Ukraine.

Gen. Phillip Breedlove, who is dual-hatted as the head of U.S. European Command and NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe, was slated to testify before Congress on Tuesday and Wednesday. He returned to Germany on Saturday to confer with allies and staff ahead of a long-scheduled, two-day meeting in Brussels with NATO foreign ministers.

The decision to send Breedlove back early was made Friday by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel.



Breedlove

John Kirby said in a statement.

Hagel "considered Breedlove's early return the prudent thing to do, given the lack of transparency and intent from Russian leadership about their military movements across the border," the statement said. "More broadly, he felt it was important for Gen. Breedlove to continue our efforts to consult with NATO allies, and to discuss specific ways to provide additional reassurance for our NATO allies in Eastern Europe."

The House Armed Services Committee will try either to reschedule Breedlove's appearance for a later date or to have one of Breedlove's deputies testify instead, said committee staff mem-

ber Claude Chafin.

The gathering of NATO's top diplomats in Brussels will include Secretary of State John Kerry, who met in Paris on Sunday with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, in an attempt to defuse the Ukraine crisis.

The first day of the NATO ministerial will focus on support for Ukraine and a review of the alliance's relations with Russia, according to a schedule of events posted on NATO's website. Originally, the meeting was expected to focus on the impending withdrawal of NATO combat troops from Afghanistan after more than 12 years of war and the international implications of that move, diplomats said.

Breedlove's premature return to Europe "does not foreshadow imminent military action in Ukraine," Kirby wrote, but "the general's return will allow him more time to confer closely with his staff and our allies and partners, and to better advise senior leaders."

Breedlove typically attends the foreign ministerials, a NATO official said, but his participation is often limited. Breedlove's deputy, a British four-star general who has been officially on the job for less than a week, was scheduled to attend the gathering on his behalf.

U.S. officials decided to have Breedlove attend the ministerial in person. "The bottom line is he's got the experience and the awareness of exactly what the situation is, and they thought he would be quite useful... as they made their mind up about what the way forward would be," said the NATO official, who could not be named under standing alliance rules.

Jon Harper and Slobodan Lekic contributed to this report.
millham.matt@stripes.com

Kerry, Lavrov agree on the need for diplomatic solution

The Associated Press

PARIS — Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday night the United States and Russia agree on the need for a diplomatic solution for Ukraine, but he stressed the Russian troop buildup along the border is not helpful.

Kerry stressed that Ukraine would have to be at the table for negotiations.

He also said the Russian troop buildup along the border is creating a climate of fear and intimidation in Ukraine.

He noted that even though the troops are still on Russian soil, they create a negative atmosphere.

"The question is not one of right or legality," he said. "The

question is one of strategic appropriateness and whether it's smart at this moment of time to have troops massed on the border."

Kerry said Ukraine must make the decision about a Russian proposal of federalization of Ukraine.

Kerry made the comments after a lengthy meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov at the residence of the Russian ambassador to France to go over Moscow's response to a U.S. plan to de-escalate the situation.

Russia's foreign minister said Ukraine can't function as a "unified state" and should be a loose federation of regions that choose their own economic model, language and religion.



PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER ASTAFYEV, RIA-NOVOSTI/AP

Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev speaks to children Monday while visiting Simferopol, Crimea.

Russian premier makes surprise visit to Crimea

BY LAURA MILLS
AND VLADIMIR ISACHENOV
The Associated Press

SIMFEROPOL, Crimea — Russia showered promises on Crimea on Monday, sending its prime minister on a surprise visit there to promise quick funds to improve power supplies, water lines and education.

In Kiev, Ukraine's acting president flatly rejected Russian pressure to turn Ukraine into a loose federation.

Russia's takeover of Crimea, a strategic Black Sea peninsula, and its attempts to compel constitutional changes in Ukraine have markedly raised tensions with the West and prompted fears that Moscow intends to invade other areas of Ukraine. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry met for more than four hours of talks Sunday on defusing the tensions, but made no apparent progress.

From Kiev, Ukraine's new government issued a big "hands off" to Moscow.

"Russia's leadership should deal with problems in the Russian Federation, and not with Ukraine's problems," Ukraine's acting president, Oleksandr Turchynov, said. "It is Ukrainians that should dictate the form of the new constitution and how the country is structured."

The concerns were stoked by the large numbers of troops Russia has placed along the Ukrainian border for what Moscow said were military exercises. On Monday, the Russian Defense Ministry said one of the battalions that had been sent to the Rostov border next to Ukraine was being withdrawn to its permanent base in the central Samara region, Russian news agencies said.



Medvedev speaks Monday at a meeting for the economic development of Crimea in Simferopol, Crimea.

Alexander Rozmaznin, deputy chief of the Ukrainian armed forces command center, separately confirmed a drop in Russian troop numbers along the border.

Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, who led a delegation of Cabinet ministers on a surprise visit to Crimea, pledged that Russia will quickly boost salaries and pensions there and pour in resources to improve education, health care and local infrastructure.

But making no mistake about Russia's view of the peninsula, Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin tweeted a photo of himself upon arrival in Crimea with the words "Crimea is ours, and that's that."

Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine in March after a hastily called referendum held just two weeks after Russian forces had taken control of the Black Sea region. Ukraine and the West have rejected the vote.

The annexation after Ukraine's pro-Russian President Viktor Yanukovich was ousted in February following months of protests. Russia claims the ouster was a coup and that the new Ukrainian authorities are nationalist fascists who will abuse Ukraine's large ethnic Russian population.

The new government notes that Yanukovich himself left the country for Russia and there has been no harassment of Russian speakers.

To keep its influence over eastern and southern Ukraine, which are heavily populated by ethnic Russians, Russia has pushed for Ukraine to become a federation where regions would have broad powers. The U.S. says it's up to Ukrainians to determine the structure of their government, not Moscow.

Medvedev said Russia will create a special economic zone in Crimea — a peninsula of 2 million people — that will create incentives for business with lower taxes and simpler rules. Russia will also seek to develop the region as a top tourist destination and will try to ensure that plane tickets to Crimea are cheap enough to encourage more Russians to visit.

"We must create a new investment history for Crimea, which will be more successful than what it has been," Medvedev said.

Medvedev particularly emphasized the need to ensure a stable power supply for the peninsula. Crimea currently gets about 80 percent of its electricity and a similar share of its water from Ukraine, and power cutoffs last week raised fears that the Ukrainian government could use energy as a weapon to bargain with Russia.

STARS AND STRIPES.

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe
John Panasiwicz, General Manager, Pacific
Lt. Col. Jeff Myer, Commander
Lt. Col. Brian Porter, Pacific commander

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editorial Director
leonard.terry@stripes.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stripes.com
Sam Amrhein, Deputy Managing Editor
amrhein.sam@stripes.com
Tina Croley, Enterprise Editor
croley.tina@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast

Teddie Weyr, News Editor Europe/Mideast
weyr.teddie@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9310; cell
+49(0)173.115.1881; DSN (314)583.9310

Pacific

Paul Alexander, News Editor Pacific
alexander.paul@stripes.com
+81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)5883.1673
DSN (315)225.5377

Washington

Patrick Dickinson, Washington Bureau Chief
dickinson.pat@stripes.com
(+1)703.693.6957; DSN (312)223.6957
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stripes.com
Joe Gromelski, Assistant Managing Editor, Web
gromelski.joe@stripes.com
Sean Moores, Assistant Managing Editor, Sports, Features and Graphics
moores.sean@stripes.com

CONTACT US

Washington
tel.: (+1)202.761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;
fax: (+1)202.761.0890
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301

Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

OMBUDSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any complaints by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 30 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96358-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96358-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stripes.com

OPINION

US should get real, help besieged Syrians

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

When Bashar Assad's forces gassed the Damascus suburb of Moadamiyeh in August, the fumes penetrated Qusai Zakaria's apartment within minutes. A female neighbor knocked on his door with two unconscious children, but he couldn't breathe or talk.

The 29-year-old struggled to the street, where women and children were running about wildly and dropping dead; he saw a young teenager with pale blue eyes on the ground "staring at nothing." Then his heart stopped, and his body was thrown on a pile of corpses with white foam dripping from their mouths.

Miraculously, Zakaria revived and became a voice for civilian survivors. Recently, he escaped Syria and I spoke with him in Washington. He bears witness to a shameful global failure to confront what U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon calls "the biggest humanitarian and peace and security crisis facing the world."

As Zakaria makes clear, the regime was starving residents of Moadamiyeh for a year before the gas attack — and continues to besiege survivors, along with more than 220,000 civilians in other areas held by rebels. This is in direct defiance of a U.N. Security Council resolution in February.

When the Syrian regime began, civilians in Moadamiyeh demonstrated peacefully for an end to a corrupt Assad family dictatorship that had lasted more than four decades. A middle-class suburb of four-story apartment houses, adjacent to open farmland, the suburb sat between key regime military bases, and the government



ALEPPO MEDIA CENTER, AMC/AP

A Syrian man helps a wounded man after a government airstrike in Aleppo, Syria. While the U.S. is providing millions of dollars in aid to Syria, relief usually doesn't reach besieged towns.

forces began arresting, torturing and raping residents.

In mid-2012, regime tanks rolled into Moadamiyeh, killing about 500 civilians and arresting 600 to 700, including some women and kids.

It was only after the regime brutalized civilians that residents of Moadamiyeh decided they must defend their community. "Ordinary people sold their jewelry and the rich donated, and we bought weapons from smugglers and corrupt officers, mostly AK-47s," Zakaria said. "We recruited young men who had done military service." Most of his family fled, but he joined the local relief committee that distributed food and medicine to the needy.

In November 2012, the regime laid siege to the suburb and its remaining 13,000 peo-

ple, cut off electricity and barred any food from entering or people from leaving. Zakaria's relief council scoured abandoned apartments for bags of flour or pasta to distribute to residents. By mid-2013, starvation set in.

After the gas attack, on Aug. 21, 2013, residents hoped they would be rescued. When President Barack Obama opted instead for the chemical weapons accord, "we were disappointed and angry," Zakaria said. "We felt like he was telling Assad to do more, to use new means of death." In other words, the accord brokered by Washington and Moscow to destroy Syria's chemical arsenal gave Assad a green light to kill by other means.

During talks in Geneva in January and February, the regime let some food in, letting thousands of residents return. But as soon as the talks ended, Assad stopped the humanitarian aid convoys.

"I know the United States is one of the main donors," Zakaria told me. "But the aid is going to organizations that work under the regime, which gives him (Assad) more cards to force civilians or rebels to surrender. They should find a way to get the aid into besieged towns."

Here's my suggestion: Instead of sending video cameras to civilian rebels to film the carnage or ambulances to take victims to gutted hospitals (the latest idea), the United States should get real. Send vetted rebel groups the heavy weapons they need to shoot down planes that bomb civilians, and to ensure that aid reaches the needy. Doing less makes us complicit in Assad's war crimes.

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial board member for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Contraception case is really all about freedom

By CHRISTINE M. FLOWERS
The Philadelphia Daily News

Throughout history, people have fought the good fight to preserve those things of value and fundamental importance that define the essence of being human. Our Founding Fathers raged against the tyranny of their colonial overlords. Blacks and their allies rode the freedom train against a virulent tide of bigotry. Women struggled to earn what should have been their birthright — a political voice. Activists like Cesar Chavez labored to bring dignity to the migrant worker. Liberty, equality, respect and a living wage were all things that were won through the sacrifice of people who recognized that certain things in life are neither negotiable nor free.

This week there was another bloodless battle that took place in our national courtroom, but it was no less passionate than the ones fought at Lexington and Concord, in Hattiesburg and in the orchards of Salinas. On Tuesday, a group of plaintiffs fought to preserve their inalienable rights to worship without government interference. And the government fought back on behalf of what it believes matters most to Ameri-

can women: free birth control.

Many who support the Obamacare contraceptive mandate, one that forces employers to pay for insurance policies that cover artificial birth control, might object to that description of the controversy. I don't blame them; crusaders for freedom, equality and dignity end up on pedestals; crusaders for freedoms end up as the butt of jokes.

I'm fairly sure that supporters of the mandate don't appreciate the irony of their position, advocating for female autonomy while demanding someone else pay for it, but the rest of us who stand with Tuesday's plaintiffs certainly do.

Randall Wenger, an attorney for one of the plaintiffs, Conestoga Wood Specialties, had a different idea about what was really at stake: "This case is about something extremely American: freedom. If government is in the position of telling people they need to violate their conscience in order to earn a living, we cease to live in freedom."

Conestoga, along with the lead plaintiff in the case, Hobby Lobby, is a for-profit corporation run by Mennonites who oppose any form of abortifacient birth control. They seek to have the contraceptive mandate declared unconstitutional. As noted by Wenger, they are upholding the noble American tradition of fighting for intangible rights that define what it means to be a fully participating citizen of a country built on the primacy of the individual.

In prior generations, they would be the ones on the pedestals. For this one, filled with people accustomed to viewing much of life as an "entitlement," these good people are considered roadblocks to a subsidized benefit. More than that, they are ridiculed for their principled opposition.

It is amazing how the government has twisted this controversy into a battle between the greedy and overreaching

"church" and a "state" that stands as a bulwark against the growing caliphate or Christendom. As a lawyer, I think that's preposterous. Under both the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, as well as the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment, it's difficult to see how you can force a company — which is, in the end, an extension of the people who run it — to provide services and products that violate sincere, profoundly held beliefs. This is particularly so when the aggrieved employees have the freedom to either choose an employer who is willing to subsidize their birth control or, even better, pay for it themselves.

Contrary to what the chattering classes would have us believe, this is not the case of women being barred from using contraceptives. In our post-Grainold world, that's a ridiculous suggestion, or, as we lawyers call it, a red herring. This is a case of protecting religious employers from having to guarantee access to a product that puts them at odds with their faith.

The crusaders for free birth control are vying for the same case. They've pulled out the big rhetorical gun, warning about how a victory for the plaintiffs would mean that companies could then discriminate against gays, the disabled, immigrants, Democrats and all of society's dispossessed creatures. They also seem to imply that if the government loses, women will be fitted with chastity belts (which I doubt is covered under Obamacare anyway). The hysteria is hysterical.

This is a battle for all of us who believe in freedom, whether religious or reproductive. And you don't have to agree with the plaintiffs to realize that if they are forced to ransom their souls, we are in danger of losing our own.

Christine M. Flowers is a lawyer and columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News.

OPINION

Oil spills heighten tough ties to fossil fuels

By STEVE PAUL

Two more oil spills last week should give Americans pause, especially in the ongoing, fractious debate over the Keystone XL pipeline.

A BP refinery near Chicago, expanded just a year ago to handle the thick tar-sand crude oil coming from Canada — the oil destined to be carried south by the proposed U.S. pipe — experienced an operational hiccup on Monday. According to the Chicago Tribune, the extent of the spill remains unknown, though an EPA official “said there appeared to be no negative effects on Lake Michigan, the source of drinking water for 7 million people in Chicago and the suburbs.” The official also reported “no known impact” to wildlife.

Off Galveston, Texas, 168,000 gallons of bunker fuel oil seeped into coastal waters after a container ship collided with a fuel tanker. Reports note that that’s a mere fraction of the 100 million-gallon, Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf, yet nearby wildlife refuges did not escape harm and the remaining thick fuel uncaptured in recovery efforts could have long-term consequences.

USA Today notes that Texas records 675 oil spills per year — nearly two per day — most of them relatively tiny.

The Obama administration, after five years of study, controversy and protest actions, is on the verge of deciding whether to greenlight the Keystone XL pipeline. The 1,100-mile project would stretch from the Alberta tar-sand fields to St. Louis, Mo., where it will hook up with other pipeline projects already underway.

Proponents argue that the Keystone XL will mean jobs, jobs, jobs and other boosts to the economy. Opponents fear ecological dangers to, say, the Ogallala Aquifer, which reaches into Nebraska, and the global warming doom that extends from



KEVIN M. COX, THE GALVESTON (TEXAS) COUNTY DAILY NEWS/AP

A boat stretches a containment boom in the ship channel in the aftermath of an oil spill in Texas City, Texas.

the persistent drilling of Canada’s huge dirty-oil reserve.

But other than capping that Canadian production entirely — not likely to happen, of course — the alternatives are slim. Without a pipeline into the U.S., less-efficient transport of the crude oil by rail will increase, bringing its own downsides. Or the Canadians — and Chinese — can choose to skirt U.S. refiners and pipe the

stuff directly to Canada’s west coast.

So goes our Faustian bargain with fossil fuels. We have our oil shale boom and our natural gas bounty, and we have our fears of fracking and ecological taint. Twenty-five years after the still-disturbing Alaska tragedy of the Exxon Valdez, it seems as if we’ve hardly learned a thing.

Today’s political climate, which will hold more sway than any damaging oil spill,

might force Secretary of State John Kerry — given the crossing of an international border, it’s his primary call — to endorse the Keystone XL. If so, approval should come only with the strictest of standards for safety and supervision and disaster control. Even then, we can only hope for good luck.

Steve Paul is a columnist for the Kansas City Star.

Are we heading toward the fall of democracy?

By STEIN RINGEN

Behind dysfunctional government, is democracy, it say, in decay?

It took only 250 years for democracy to disintegrate in ancient Athens. A wholly new form of government was invented there in which the people ruled themselves. That constitution proved marvelously effective. Athens grew in wealth and capacity, fought off the Persian challenge, established itself as the leading power in the known world and produced treasures of architecture, philosophy and art that bedazzle to this day. But when privilege, corruption and mismanagement took hold, the lights went out.

It would be 2,000 years before democracy was reinvented in the U.S. Constitution, now as representative democracy. Again, government by popular consent proved ingenious. The United States grew into the world’s leading power — economically, culturally and militarily. In Europe, democracies overtook authoritarian monarchies and fascist dictatorial dictatorships. In recent decades, democracy’s spread has made the remaining autocracies a minority.

The second democratic experiment is approaching 250 years. It has been as successful as the first. But the lesson from Athens is that success does not breed success. Democracy is not the default. It is a form of government that must be created with determination and that will disintegrate unless nurtured. In the United States and Britain, democracy is disintegrating

It’s not enough for governments to simply be democratic; they must deliver or decay.

when it should be nurtured by leadership. If the lights go out in the model democracies, they will not stay on elsewhere.

It’s not enough for governments to simply be democratic; they must deliver or decay. In Britain, government is increasingly ineffectual. The constitutional scholar Anthony King has described it as declining from “order” to “mess” in less than 30 years. During 10 years of New Labor rule, that proposition was tested and confirmed. In 1997, a new government was voted in with a mandate and determination to turn the tide on Thatcherite inequality. It was given all the parliamentary power a democratic government could dream of and benefited from 10 years of steady economic growth. But a strong government was defeated by a weak system of governance. It delivered nothing of what it intended and left Britain more unequal than where the previous regime had left off.

The next government, a center-right coalition, has proved itself equally unable. It was supposed to repair damage from the economic crisis but has responded with inaction on the causes of crisis, in a monopolistic financial-services sector, and with a

brand of austerity that protects the privileged at the expense of the poor. Again, what has transpired is inability rather than ill will. Both these governments came up against concentrations of economic power that have become politically unmanageable.

Meanwhile, the health of the U.S. system is even worse than in looks. The three branches of government are designed to deliver through checks and balances. But balance has become gridlock, and the United States is not getting the governance it needs. Here, the link between inequality and inability is on sharp display. Power has been sucked out of the constitutional system and usurped by actors such as PACs, think tanks, media and lobbying organizations.

In the age of mega-expensive politics, candidates depend on sponsors to fund permanent campaigns. When money is allowed to transgress from markets, where it belongs, to politics, where it has no business, those who control it gain power to decide who the successful candidates will be — those they wish to fund — and what they can decide once they are in office. Rich supporters get two swings at influencing politics, one as voters and one as donors. Others have only the vote, a power that diminishes as political inflation deflates its value. It is a misunderstanding to think that candidates chase money. It is money that chases candidates.

In Athens, democracy disintegrated when the rich grew super-rich, refused to play by the rules and undermined the es-

tablished system of government. That is the point that the United States and Britain have reached.

Nearly a century ago, when capitalist democracy was in a crisis not unlike the present one, Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis warned: “We may have democracy, or we may have wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, but we can’t have both.” Democracy weathered that storm for two reasons: It is not inequality as such that destroys democracy but the more recent combination of inequality and transgression. Furthermore, democracy was then able to learn from crisis. The New Deal tempered economic free-for-all, primarily through the 1933 Banking Act, and gave the small folk new social securities.

The lesson from Athens is that success breeds complacency. People, notably those in privilege, stopped caring, and democracy was neglected. Six years after the global economic crisis, the signs from the model democracies are that those in privilege are unable to care and that our systems are unable to learn. The crisis started in out-of-control financial services industries in the United States and Britain, but control has not been reasserted. Economic inequality has followed through to political inequality, and democratic government is bereft of power and capacity. Brandeis was not wrong; he was ahead of his time.

Stein Ringen is an emeritus professor at Oxford University and the author of “Nation of Devils: Democratic Leadership and the Problem of Obedience.”

WORLD

Shetlanders going their own way

Scotland's Vikings intent on autonomy regardless of country's independence vote

By JILL LAWLESS
The Associated Press

IN the late winter dusk, hundreds of Vikings are marching down to the beach, bearing flaming torches. Their studded leather breastplates glint in the firelight as they roar and sing.

It's a scene that would have struck terror in the hearts of Dark Age Britons — and also perhaps an unsettling one for modern politicians on both sides of Scotland's independence debate.

The fearsome-looking participants in a Viking fire festival known as Up Helly Aa live in Scotland's remote Shetland Islands, a wind-whipped northern archipelago where many claim descent from Scandinavian raiders. They are cool to the idea of Scotland leaving Britain to form an independent nation, and determined that their rugged islands — closer to Norway than to Edinburgh — will retain their autonomy, whatever the outcome of September's referendum.

"Shetland is different. We have Viking blood in our veins," said the procession's magnificently bearded chief Viking, or Jarl — by day a local authority housing officer named Keith Lobban.

There are 23,000 Shetlanders, too few to make much difference to the outcome of the independence vote. They do have Viking-sized confidence, and a big bargaining chip: A chunk of Britain's oil and gas reserves lie beneath Shetland waters.

Shetlanders are seeking new powers and official recognition of their special status — possibly along the lines of the Faroe Islands, a self-governing dependency of Denmark. The islanders feel their moment may have come, as Scotland's fluid constitutional status gives them opportunities to seek concessions from both sides.

Tavish Scott, Shetland's representative in the Scottish Parliament, said an independent Scotland "doesn't have an economy if oil and gas doesn't happen. And that gives Shetland some leverage."

A "yes" vote for independence on Sept. 18 would trigger complex negotiations between Edinburgh and London over Scotland's share of Britain's offshore oil and gas — and of its trillion-pound national debt. A "no" vote is likely to lead to talks about giving Scotland more power of its economy and resources.

Authorities in Shetland, which enjoys local government powers such as raising taxes and running schools, see the referendum as a chance to drive a hard bargain — something at which they have considerable experience.

For centuries, Shetland was a poor place, ignored by governments far to the south and reliant on the unpredictable fishery industry and running schools to see the referendum as a chance to drive a hard bargain — something at which they have considerable experience.

Amid the rush of discovery, Shetland negotiated a generous compensation agreement with eager oil companies — creating an oil fund that has helped give the island chain well-paved roads, plentiful swimming pools and well-equipped community centers.

These days, oil production is dwindling, but French energy company Total is building a natural gas plant on the islands.



JILL LAWLESS/AP

Locals dressed as Vikings carry torches as they take part in the annual Up Helly Aa festival in Gulberwick, Scotland, on March 14. The fearsome-looking participants in the festival live in the remote Shetland Islands.

Shetlanders are keen to have control over their resources — oil, gas, fish and even wind — and are wary of government meddling.

"Whether decisions are made in Edinburgh or in London, they are still distant from Shetland," said Adam Civico, editor of the Shetland Times newspaper.

Local lawmakers have suggested that Shetland and the neighboring Orkney Islands might demand a bigger share of oil and gas revenue as a condition for joining Scotland. An online petition calls for resi-

dents of Shetland, Orkney and Scotland's Western Isles to hold separate referenda on whether to join an independent Scotland, stick with Britain or declare independence — although the legality of any such vote is uncertain.

Officials in the island groups have formed the "Our Islands, Our Future" campaign to seek more power after the referendum, whatever the result.

"We want to make sure that out of this big constitutional debate, we decide what we want for our future, because Edinburgh

Independence, or 'better together'?

There are only 23,000 Shetlanders, too few to make much difference in the outcome of Scotland's independence vote in September. A look at the decision faced by the nation of 5.3 million:

The 'yes' camp

The anti-independence forces led by First Minister Alex Salmond say an independent Scotland will use its oil and gas wealth to create a prosperous and progressive nation of 5.3 million with generous welfare provisions — a bit like Scandinavia, in fact.

The 'no' camp

The anti-independence "Better Together" campaign argues that independence would bring huge economic uncertainties. Scots could face the loss of their currency, the British pound, and an end to European Union membership. Some say British companies headquartered in Scotland will pack up and move south of the border, while military shipbuilding will desert shipyards near Glasgow and Edinburgh for English ports. Battles over who owns the North Sea oil and gas could drag on for years.

doesn't tend to pay much attention to the islanders," Scott, the lawmaker, told the BBC.

Scott speaks with a confidence that's the product of centuries of difference from the rest of Scotland.

It's hard to find tartan or kilts in Shetland, where Norse pride replaces the Celtic influence that shaped mainland Scotland.

Shetland was Viking-ruled until it was mortgaged to Scotland by the king of Norway in 1469 to raise a dowry for his daughter. There are still many Norse words in the local dialect, and Shetland abounds in Scandinavian place names such as Vidlin and Tingwall. With its raging surf, treeless hills and black volcanic rock, parts of Shetland could double for Iceland.

The most spectacular sign of Shetland's cultural difference is Up Helly Aa, a series of festivals held in communities across the islands in wintertime whose name means roughly "the end of the holidays."

The centerpiece is a fiery parade — powered by marching songs and brass bands — that ends when the well-drilled amateur Vikings hurl their torches onto a replica longship that has taken months to build. The orange fireball lights up the night sky. Once the vessel has sunk, smoldering, into the sea, the participants head to local halls for evenings of music and comic skits that are part barn dance, part Mardi Gras.

"Viking heritage means everything to Shetland folk," said Paul Hutton, 24, eye-glasses glinting under his Viking helmet at an Up Helly Aa procession in the village of Gulberwick. "Shetland heritage and Shetland culture is so strong that everybody would say we are definitely Shetland first. Shetland first, and then Scottish, then part of the United Kingdom."

'Whether decisions are made in Edinburgh or in London, they are still distant from Shetland.'

Adam Civico

editor of the Shetland Times

SHIFTING GEARS

Kia doesn't lose Soul in improvements for 2014

By ANN M. JOB

For The Associated Press

The animated and dapper hamsters in Kia's television ads aren't the only ones who ride comfortably in Kia's newly revamped Soul five-door hatchback.

People of nearly all sizes and budgets can find the five-passenger, 2014 Soul to be a satisfying small car. For 2014, it has a more responsive engine, more rigid body, ritzier passenger compartment and greater interior room than its predecessor.

Buyers just have to like riding in an expressively "mod" box.

Starting retail price for the 2014 Soul is affordable at less than \$16,000.

With fold-down rear seats, the Soul has as much cargo space — 61.3 cubic feet — as a small sport utility vehicle.

Gasoline mileage can be better than that of an SUV. The test Soul with automatic averaged 26 miles per gallon in combined city/highway driving without fuss.

Best of all, the 2014 model is the first Soul to earn top, five out of five stars in U.S. government crash tests in both frontal and side crash tests. Previous model year Souls got only four stars in frontal crash tests.

No wonder the Soul far outsells its major competitor — the boy Scion xB and the Nissan Cube. Specifically, 118,079 Souls were sold in the United States in calendar 2013, up 2 percent from the previous year. In comparison, Scion xB sales last year fell to 17,849 and Cube sales fell to 5,461.

The Soul is competitively priced. Starting manufacturer's suggested retail price, including destination charge, is \$15,695 for a base, 2014 Soul with 130-horsepower four cylinder and standard manual transmission. The lowest starting retail price for a 2014 Soul with automatic is \$18,000 more, or \$17,495.

There is a larger, more powerful four-cylinder, too. Starting MSRP, including destination charge, for a 2014 Soul Plus model with this 164-horsepower direct injection powerplant is \$18,995. The only transmission with the uplevel engine is a six-speed automatic.

All Souls come standard with heated outside mirrors, Bluetooth hands-free phone connectivity, steering wheel-mounted audio controls, two 12-volt power connections, sunglasses holder with dual maplights above the front seats, air conditioning, tilt and telescoping steering wheel and power windows and door locks. There's even a free, three-month subscription to Sirius/XM satellite radio for every 2014 Soul owner.

In comparison, the 2014 Scion xB has a starting retail price, including destination charge, of \$17,725 with 158-horsepower four cylinder and five-speed manual transmission and \$18,675 with four-speed automatic. The base, 2014 xB includes turn signals in the outside mirrors, remote entry and cruise control, which are not on the base Soul. But the base



2014 Kia Soul

AP Photo/Kia

2014 Kia Soul Exclaim



Base price: \$14,900 for base model; \$18,200 for Plus; \$20,300 for Exclaim.

Price as tested: \$26,195.

Type: Front-engine, front-wheel drive, five-passenger hatchback.

Engine: 2-liter, double overhead cam, gasoline direct injection four cylinder.

Mileage: 23 mpg (city), 31 mpg (highway).

Top speed: NA.

Length: 163 inches.

Wheelbase: 101.2 inches.

Curb weight: 2,837 pounds.

Built at: South Korea.

Options: Sun and sound package (includes automatic climate control, panoramic sunroof with power sunshade, navigation system), \$2,600; whole shebang package (includes leather seat trim, high-intensity discharge headlights with automatic leveling, push button start with smart key, heated and ventilated front seats, heated rear seats, heated steering wheel), \$2,500.

Destination charge: \$795.

AP

xB does not have heated outside mirrors.

Meantime, the base, 2014 Nissan Cube S starts at \$17,570 with 122-horsepower four cylinder and six-speed manual. The base, 2014 Scion xB has more headroom than other competitor — 40 inches in the front seats and 41.2 inches in the back.

price of \$18,570. The base Cube includes remote keyless entry, cruise control and premium-look electroluminescent gauges that the base Soul does not have. But the Cube's steering wheel only tilts and does not telescope in and out.

Many people don't realize the Soul was Kia's second best-selling vehicle in the United States, last year. But it's tough to beat the Soul's easily maneuverable size, flexible cargo and people-hauling capability and value-for-the-money features.

The test Soul, for example, included remote keyless entry, heated and ventilated front seats, heated rear seats, Kia's UVO infotainment system, rearview camera, navigation system, panoramic sunroof with power sunshade, leather-covered seats, push button start, illuminated lighting at the audio speakers, heated steering wheel and more for just over \$26,000.

The Soul's box shape is changed just slightly for 2014, and most observers didn't notice the changes on the test vehicle. Specifically, the Soul is about a half inch shorter in height than before, so it's a couple inches shorter than the Cube. That makes the Soul feel less lumpy than the Cube in curves and turns but still allows for ample, 39.5 inches of headroom in front and rear seats. The 2014 Scion xB has more headroom than other competitor — 40 inches in the front seats and 41.2 inches in the back.

Back-seat legroom is generous in this segment, and for 2014, Kia expanded the Soul's wheelbase — the distance from the middle of one wheel on one side of the vehicle to the middle of the other wheel on that same side — to im-

Many people don't realize the Soul was Kia's second best-selling vehicle in the United States, after the mid-size Optima sedan, last year. But it's tough to beat the Soul's easily maneuverable size, flexible cargo and people-hauling capability and value-for-the-money features.

prove interior space. As a result, legroom measures 40.9 inches in the front seat and 39.1 inches in the back seat.

It's worth noting that the Soul's seat cushions sit up a comfortable distance from the car floor, so passengers don't drop down to settle onto the seats. This higher seat position makes it easy to enter and exit the Soul and allows for the driver to have good views forward through the windows of cars that are in front of the Soul in traffic. Plus, the glass on the rear-door windows goes down all the way.

Most Souls come with the uplevel, 2-liter, double overhead cam four cylinder. It's gasoline

direct injected and mated only to a six-speed automatic.

Performance has been improved for more "oomph" at lower engine rpms. Torque peaks at 151 foot-pounds at 4,000 rpm, and with the Soul being such a lightweight car — weighing just 2,700 to 2,850 pounds — the powerplant did a good job of providing a spunky feel.

Still, the four cylinder buzzed loudly when pressed to accelerate hard.

The tester averaged better than the federal government ratings of 23/31 mpg and translated into a range of 369 miles on a single, 14.2-gallon tank.

**37
HWY
MPG**

2015 Volvo V60 T5 Drive-E From ONLY \$31,770

TEST DRIVE TODAY

www.capitolmotors.com

US MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC SALES IN GERMANY

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Hurt snowy owl sent to Minn. for feather repair

DC WASHINGTON — Washington's celebrated but injured snowy owl has been sent to a Minnesota raptor rehabilitation center for the painstaking repair of its damaged feathers.

The raptor, which entranced the District of Columbia by its presence this winter, was injured when it was hit by a bus. In what appeared to be a separate incident, authorities said, its feathers were also singed.

After rehabilitation on the East Coast, the owl recently was sent for feather work at the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center.

In that work, feathers already on hand are joined to the healthy parts of an injured bird's own feathers. Owl feathers have hollow shafts, and wood slivers are fitted into each to link the two, along with a bit of epoxy for binding, said clinic manager Lori Arent.

She said the restored feathers looked "just terrific" Friday and that a tethered test flight is planned soon, to be followed by an eventual return of the owl to the wild.

Man elected when coin toss breaks voting tie

NM SANTA FE — A hard-fought campaign for an Espanola City Council seat led to a recount before three tosses of a quarter in a Santa Fe courtroom broke the resulting tie.

State District Judge Francis Matthew tossed a quarter three times Thursday, and Michelle Martinez won when the third toss went "tails" a second time.

Rival Philip Chacon had chosen "heads."

Initial results from the March 4 election had Chacon beating Martinez by a small margin, but Martinez demanded a recount among confusion about printing and counting of absentee ballots.

The recount had Chacon and Martinez tied with 167 votes each.

New Mexico law provides for tied election races to be decided by a game of chance.

Chacon had complained about the election and he said Thursday he still feels that way.

Man pleads guilty to Girl Scout money theft

CA SAN DIEGO — A San Diego County gang member accused of stealing a jar of cash from Girl Scouts outside a grocery store pleaded guilty to misdemeanor petty theft and resisting arrest.

Deputy District Attorney Jennifer Cullen said David Betancort, 21, was sentenced Thursday to 240 days in jail and was placed on probation for three years.

Last month, Betancort swiped a donation jar that the Scouts were using to collect money for U.S. troops overseas, then fled in a car.

An adult who was with the Scouts memorized the license plate number.

He was arrested a few days later in Escondido after leading

THE CENSUS

\$270M

The cost of the new chocolate plant candy giant opened in Topeka, Kan., by candy giant Mars Inc. Company officials had a grand opening Thursday for the sprawling facility, which they say exists mostly to meet U.S. demand for its M&M's and Snickers-brand candy. The plant will be able to produce 14 million bite-sized Snickers each day, as well as 39 million M&M's.



WARREN DILLAWAY, THE (ASHTABULA, OHIO) STAR-BEACON/AP

Sticky situation

Kristen Ewing laughs as fellow Superior Intermediate School teacher Jeff Baylor hangs from a gymnasium wall Friday in Ashtabula, Ohio, as part of a fundraiser to fight leukemia.

officers on a short foot chase.

The judge also ordered Betancort to pay back the money that was in the jar — about \$45.

Bill on transgender rights protection passes

MD ANNAPOLIS — The Maryland General Assembly has passed legislation to expand protections for

transgender individuals, barring employers, landlords and others from discriminating against people based on gender identity.

The House of Delegates voted 82 to 57 on Thursday to give transgender individuals the same protections given to those who might face discrimination based on race, sex, color, creed, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, age or disability.

The Senate has already approved the civil rights legislation, and Gov. Martin O'Malley, a Democrat, said he looks forward to signing it into law.

Court: Horse owners must prevent injuries

CT HARTFORD — The Connecticut Supreme Court says owners of horses or

other domestic animals must prevent them from causing injuries, siding with a family whose child was bitten by a horse.

The court on Wednesday upheld an Appellate Court ruling that found that a horse belongs to "a species naturally inclined to do mischief or be vicious." But a majority of four justices said in their decision that the question of whether an animal is dangerous must be considered individually.

The case began in 2006 when a boy was bitten while trying to pet a horse named Suppdy at a Milford farm.

Horse owners say designating horses vicious would make owning the animals impractical because of insurance costs. Proposed state legislation would reduce exposure to liability.

Animal mummies displayed at museum

CA SANTA ANA — We love our dogs and cats, but the ancient Egyptians RE-ALLY loved their dogs and cats — not to mention their snakes, crocodiles and birds.

Animals held such a prominent place in ancient Egyptian society that tens of millions were mummified, some going into the pharaohs' tombs to rest eternally in the company of their kings. Others had their own special cemeteries.

Dozens of the best surviving specimens are on display at Orange County's Bowers Museum as the centerpiece of "Soulful Creatures: Animal Mummies in Ancient Egypt" through June 15.

The exhibit includes a dog so well detailed that even its floppy ears are prominent. An ancient cat has been laid to rest with its little paws drawn across its body, creating an image reminiscent of a human's funeral pose.

Man's surgery on dead porcupine saves baby

ME LISBON — A Maine man in search of a valuable mineral cut open a dead porcupine on the side of the road and unexpectedly pulled out its baby.

Jared Buzzell, of Lisbon, said he was searching for wild mushrooms Thursday when he saw a porcupine get hit by a car in Minot. Buzzell said he'd heard that a valuable mineral deposit used in Chinese medicine formed in the stomachs of porcupines.

He then cut open the dead porcupine to search for the mineral and instead found the baby.

He said he cut the umbilical cord and thought the baby porcupine was dead until he started massaging it and it began breathing.

Buzzell is caring for the baby at home and plans to give it to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

From wire reports

FACES

Chiklis joins fourth season of 'American Horror Story'

By MIKE CICONI LENNOX
The Associated Press

Michael Chiklis is ready to freak out.

The actor is joining the "American Horror Story" family for the anthology series' fourth season, subtitled "Freak Show." The Emmy-winning star of "The Shield" will portray the ex-husband and father of characters played, respectively, by Kathy Bates and Evan Peters.

The Chiklis casting announcement came during the "American Horror Story: Coven" event that served as closing night of PaleyFest. The 16-day event presented casts and crews of past and present TV series, attracting thousands of fans to the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Calif.

"Coven," which aired from October 2013 to January 2014 on the FX channel and revolved around witches in a New Orleans boarding school, made for the highest-rated of the three "Horror Story" seasons.

The series' stars present for the PaleyFest panel were surprise attendee Bates, as well as previously announced Peters, Angela Bassett, Jamie Brewer, Frances Conroy, Denis O'Hare Sarah Paulson, Emma Roberts and Gabourey Sidibe.

Actress "Jessica (Lange) is on spring break with her grandchildren," noted series co-creator Ryan Murphy, who later revealed more season-four casting news:

Lange and "every person on this stage is coming back in some capacity," he said.

Murphy explained the setting for the upcoming series "is not a circus and is not carnival, it's a freak show," adding that it was Lange who came up with idea of her character.

Lange will play a German expat in 1950s Jupiter, Fla., who is a "collector of freaks," said Bassett, who continued, "(She) will do anything — and I don't know what 'anything' might be — to keep this dying cottage industry alive just a little bit longer."

All actors agreed they knew little about "Freak Show," except the premise. But, Paulson, for one, clearly can't wait to get back to work in New Orleans, which, this time, will double for Jupiter. "All I want is a peg leg and a black tooth ... and a hunchback," Paulson said, laughing.

"American Horror Story: Freak Show" is set to debut this fall.



Chiklis



MATT SAYLES, INVISION/AP

Mark Wahlberg gets his share of slime at the Kids' Choice Awards in Los Angeles on Saturday.

Wahlberg gets slimy, One Direction cleans up at Kids' Choice Awards

By CHRIS TALBOTT
The Associated Press

Robert Downey Jr. turned inspirational speaker at the Kids' Choice Awards, Pharrell set another fashion trend, David Blaine lost his head during a slime-induced illusion, One Direction and Jennifer Lawrence cleaned up, and the green goo bath finally caught up with Mark Wahlberg — thanks to some unlikely slimmers. Nickelodeon's 27th annual awards show was among its more entertaining, opening with a sprawling and colorful Toddler Hall-choreographed performance and closing with Wahlberg's eventual sliming on Saturday night in Los Angeles. Along the way, One Direction

won two awards, producer Dan Schneider won the show's first lifetime achievement award and Robert Downey Jr. got real after winning best male butt kicker.

"This is the highest honor yet bestowed on me — I'm grateful, humble, the whole deal," the "Iron Man" star said. "You know I wasn't always a butt kicker. In fact, life has kicked my proverbial butt countless times in many ways for many years, until I decided one day to start kicking back. Now look at me!"

He ended by advising, "Remember when life is kicking your butt, never forget to kick it back right in the face."

One Direction won favorite music group and favorite song for "Story of My Life," Lawrence

won favorite movie actress and favorite female butt kicker, Selena Gomez was named favorite female singer, Adam Sandler was named favorite male actor at the fan-voted awards and Kevin Hart took favorite funny star.

The awards show isn't much more than an excuse to slime some of today's top stars, and first-time host Wahlberg executed several slimmings as he successfully escaped the green goo for the show's first 80 minutes.

It was Hart who eventually tricked Wahlberg into the goo, with an assist from the actor's three young children.

"I can't believe my own kids turned on me," Wahlberg shouted.



PARAMOUNT PICTURES/AP

Jennifer Connelly, left, and Russell Crowe star in "Noah."

'Noah' brings in viewers with \$44M at box office

The Associated Press

After weathering a sea of controversy, "Noah" arrived in first place at the weekend box office.

The biblical epic starring Russell Crowe opened with \$44 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The imaginative take on the tale of Noah's Ark from "Black Swan" director Darren Aronofsky led some religious groups to claim the story had been inaccurately depicted and prompted Paramount to add a disclaimer to marketing materials noting that "artistic license has been taken" in telling the story.

The polarizing attention apparently paid off for "Noah," which features such additions to the well-known Bible story as angelic rock creatures and chic wardrobes for Noah and his family.

"Noah," which also stars Jennifer Connelly and Emma Watson, also sailed smoothly in 22 international markets, earning \$33.6 million abroad.

Elsewhere at the box office, the teen science-fiction thriller "Divergent" starring Shailene Woodley came in second place and earned \$26.5 million in its second weekend, bringing its domestic total to \$95.3 million.

"Muppets Most Wanted" captured third place with \$11.4 million in its second weekend. The latest Muppet caper's total domestic haul is now at \$33.2 million.

The weekend's other major new release, "Sabotage," flopped in the seventh spot with \$5.3 million. The action flick starring Arnold Schwarzenegger is the latest failure for the former California governor, whose "The Last Stand" and "Escape Plan" were box-office duds last year.

"Captain America: The Winter Soldier," which opens stateside on Friday, dominated 32 international markets by capturing \$75.2 million.

Twitter turns on Colbert

Comedy Central deleted a message Thursday from its Twitter feed for the late-night satirical "Colbert Report" showing a still from Wednesday night's show where Stephen Colbert joked about starting a "Ching-Chong Ding-Dong Foundation for Sensitivity to Orientals or Whatever."

The joke was part of a skit in which Stephen Colbert, whose performs as a conservative TV host, talked about the Washington Redskins' owner buying things for Native Americans upset with the team's name.

A #CancelColbert hashtag then appeared on Twitter, igniting a debate over what is funny and what is offensive.

Comedy Central deleted the tweet and made clear the feed was not controlled by the show. On his personal Twitter feed, Colbert said of #CancelColbert that "I share your rage."

Other news

■ **Elton John** and his partner David Furnish are planning a low-profile wedding in May, following a change in British law allowing gay marriages. The couple, who have been in a civil partnership since 2005, has two children.

■ News anchor **Josh Elliott** of ABC's top-rated "Good Morning America" told the network on Sunday that he's leaving for a job at NBC Sports. ABC has appointed **Amy Robach** as the replacement "Good Morning America" news anchor.

■ **British actress Kate O'Mara**, best known for her role as Cassandra "Caresse" Morrell in the 1980s soap opera "Dynasty," died Sunday in a nursing home in southern England at the age of 74, her agent said.

■ City officials say a private security guard has severe brain hemorrhaging after being trampled by a crowd at Miami's **Ultra Music Festival**. The Miami Herald reports that Erica Mack, 28, was hospitalized Friday night after fans without tickets broke through some flimsy fencing and trampled her to the ground.

■ The star of a hip-hop reality TV show was injured after being shot by his nephew on a Massachusetts highway Saturday while riding in a funeral procession for a family member, according to authorities and his hip-hop magazine. **Benzino**, whose real name is Raymond Scott, is a cast member of the VH1 reality show "Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta" and CEO of Hip-Hop Weekly. Benzino, 48, is listed in good condition, a spokeswoman for South Shore Hospital in South Weymouth said Sunday.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Apple, Samsung head to court again

By MARTHA MENDOZA

The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The fierce rivalry in the world of smartphones is heating back to court this week in the heart of the Silicon Valley, with Apple and Samsung accusing each other, once again, of ripping off designs and features.

The trial will mark the latest round in a long-running series of lawsuits between the two tech giants that underscore a much larger concern about what is allowed to be patented.

"There's a widespread suspicion that lots of the kinds of software patents at issue are written in ways that cover more ground than what Apple or any other tech firm actually invented," Notre Dame law professor Mark McKenna said. "Overly broad patents allow companies to block competition."

The latest Apple-Samsung case will be tried less than two years

after a federal jury found the South Korean firm was infringing on Apple patents. Samsung was ordered to pay about \$900 million but is appealing and has been allowed to continue selling products using the technology.

Jury selection was scheduled to begin Monday in another round of litigation, with Apple Inc. accusing Samsung of infringing on five patents on newer devices, including Galaxy smartphones and tablets. In a counterclaim, Samsung says Apple stole two of its ideas to use on iPhones and iPads.

"Apple revolutionized the market in personal computing devices," Apple attorneys wrote in court filings. "Samsung, in contrast, has systematically copied Apple's innovative technology and products, features and designs, and has deluged markets with infringing devices."

Samsung countered that it has broken technological barriers with its own ultra-slim, lightweight phones.

"Samsung has been a pioneer in the mobile device business sector since the inception of the mobile device industry," Samsung attorneys wrote. "Apple has copied many of Samsung's innovations in its Apple iPhone, iPod, and iPad products."

In the upcoming case, Apple claims Samsung stole a tap-from-search technology that allows someone searching for a telephone number or address on the Web to tap on the results to call the number or put the address into a map. In addition, Apple says Samsung copied "Slide to Unlock," which allows users to swipe the face of their smartphone to use it.

Samsung countered that Apple is stealing a wireless technology system that speeds up sending and receiving data.

The most attention grabbing claim in the case is Apple's demand that Samsung pay a \$40 royalty for each Samsung device running software allegedly conceived by Apple, more than

five times more than the amount sought in the previous trial and well above other precedents between smartphone companies. If Apple prevails, the costs to Samsung could reach \$2 billion. Apple's costs, if it lost, are expected to be about \$6 million.

"You rarely get from the jury what you ask for, so companies aim high," said German patent analyst Florian Mueller. "But in my opinion, this is so far above a reasonable level the judge should not have allowed it."

The problem, he said, is that each smartphone has thousands of patented ideas in it; Apple is challenging just five.

Throughout the three years of litigation, Samsung's market share has grown. One of every three smartphones sold last year was a Samsung, now the market leader. Apple, with a typically higher price, was second, with about 15 percent of the global market.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (April 1)	\$1.4400
Dollar buys (April 1)	€0.7072
British pound (April 1)	\$1.71
Japanese yen (April 1)	100.00
South Korean won (April 1)	1,039.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6635/6.6011
Canada (dollar)	1.1025
China (Yuan)	6.2168
Denmark (Krone)	5.4123
Egypt (Pound)	6.9698
Euro	\$1.3793/7.2550
Hong Kong (Dollar)	1.7576
Hungary (Forint)	222.70
India (Shekel)	1.4886
Japan (Yen)	1.06320
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2815
Norway (Krone)	5.9924
Philippines (Peso)	4.47
Poland (Zloty)	3.32
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7505
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2586
South Korea (Won)	1,063.20
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8839
Thailand (Baht)	32.41
Turkey (New Lira)	1.1513

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to the dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.08
6-month bill	0.08
1-year bill	0.08
30-year bond	3.55

WEATHER OUTLOOK



Tuesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Tex	87	55	Cldy	Chatanooga	77	49	Cldy	Fort Wayne	58	47	PCldy	Louisville	72	52	PCldy
Akron, Ohio	66	34	Cldy	Cheney	47	26	Cldy	Fresno	64	46	Rain	Louisville	84	41	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	59	27	PCldy	Chicago	47	37	PCldy	Goodland	56	27	Cir	Macon	80	42	Cldy
Albuquerque	70	38	Cir	Cincinnati	70	48	PCldy	Grand Junction	59	36	Cldy	Madison	43	32	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	62	29	PCldy	Cleveland	63	33	Cldy	Grand Rapids	48	42	Cir	Medford	55	37	Cldy
Anchorage	37	18	Cir	Colorado Springs	57	23	Cldy	Great Falls	40	23	Cldy	Memphis	75	57	Cldy
Asheville	74	41	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	82	42	PCldy	Green Bay	59	37	Cir	Midland-Odesa	88	51	PCldy
Atlanta	76	51	PCldy	Columbus, Ga.	78	47	Cldy	Hartford	59	37	Cir	Midvale	68	46	Cir
Atlantic City	60	34	PCldy	Columbus, Miss.	69	44	Cldy	Harrisburg	59	33	PCldy	Milwaukee	43	37	Cir
Austin	76	51	PCldy	Concord, N.H.	47	28	Cir	Hellensburg	47	27	PCldy	Missoula	54	28	Cldy
Baltimore	64	38	PCldy	Copus Christi	80	68	Cldy	Helenia	47	27	PCldy	Mobile	68	52	PCldy
Baton Rouge	80	55	Cldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	80	64	Cldy	Honolulu	84	73	Cldy	Montgomery	79	48	Cldy
Bilings	40	26	Cldy	Dayton	65	46	Cldy	Houston	79	63	Cldy	Nashville	74	53	Cldy
Birmingham	77	50	PCldy	Daytona Beach	77	50	Cir	Huntsville	78	60	Cldy	New Orleans	77	60	Cldy
Blmarck	29	7	Cldy	Denver	57	29	Cldy	Indianapolis	60	37	PCldy	Portland, Maine	55	41	Cldy
Boise	52	36	Cldy	Des Moines	50	27	PCldy	Jackson, Miss.	80	52	PCldy	Portland, Ore.	55	41	Cldy
Boston	46	32	PCldy	Detroit	54	41	Cir	Jacksonville	80	48	Cldy	Pueblo	60	25	Cldy
Bridgeport	64	38	PCldy	Duluth	29	23	Snow	Janeau	41	27	Cldy	Reno	47	32	Cldy
Brownsville	84	70	Cldy	El Paso	80	56	Cir	Kansas City	55	31	PCldy	Reno-Burham	77	42	Cldy
Buffalo	64	32	Cldy	Elkins	65	34	Cldy	Key West	80	70	Cldy	Rapid City	52	14	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	43	25	PCldy	Erie	61	33	Cldy	Knoxville	75	49	Cldy	St. Louis	61	44	PCldy
Caribou, Maine	40	16	Cir	Eugene	55	41	Rain	Lake Charles	78	60	Cldy	St. Thomas	84	75	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	81	47	Cldy	Evansville	65	50	PCldy	Lansing	50	45	Cir	Salt Lake City	52	38	Cldy
Charleston, W.Va.	72	42	Cldy	Fargo	36	12	PCldy	Las Vegas	65	50	Cir	San Antonio	88	56	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	78	46	PCldy	Flagstaff	49	31	Cir	Lincoln	48	25	Cldy	San Diego	64	58	Cldy
				Flint	52	44	Cldy	Little Rock	72	53	Cldy	San Francisco	59	48	Rain
				Fort Smith	72	53	PCldy	Los Angeles	64	53	Rain	San Jose	61	48	Rain
												Seattle	52	43	Cir
												Shreveport	77	58	PCldy

National temperature extremes
Hi: Sun., 93, Pecos, Texas
Lo: Sun., 0, Spinlock Lake, Mich.

Stripes

SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Attorneys

178

NICKEL

US & German Attorneys

US & German Divorces • Employment
Wills and Probate • Support Issues
Personal Injury • Tax

Contractor
Issues

Call 069-299-2069-0
Email: maiss@nickelonline.de

**EUROPE'S PREMIER
MILITARY DEFENSE FIRM**

COURT & CARPENTER
Over 45 years defending
servicemembers

Heilbronner Strasse 150,
70191 Stuttgart, Germany
Phone in Germany: 0711 490 04320
www.militarylawfirm.eu

Dental

902

**American
Dental Care**

Services Offered:

Family Dentistry
Certified Orthodontics
Crowns and Veneers
Implant Surgery
Zoom Teeth Whitening
Wisdom Teeth Surgery
Nitrous Oxide
Saturday & Evening Appointments
Caring, Friendly American Staff

LOCATIONS

Wiesbaden Dental Care
06119 887 2650
Bahnstrasse 14, 65205 Wiesbaden
Wiesbadendental.com

Ramstein Dental Care
06371 406230
Post Strasse 1, 66877 Ramstein
Ramsteindental.com

Certified American Dental
Hygienists
TRICARE Preferred Provider

Sell Your Stuff!

Take the fuss out of packing up for your
everything with Stripes next PCS—sell
free classifieds!

STARS AND STRIPES.

Transportation

944

**VEHICLE
SHIPPING SERVICES**

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

For Further Information Please Contact

Phone: GERMANY +49-6134-2592730
Toll-free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only)
E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de
WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de

UNITED KINGDOM
+44-117 938 1919
0800-7839351 (UK only)
info@carshipuk.co.uk
www.carshipuk.co.uk

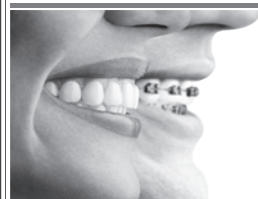
U.S.A.
+1-972-602-1670
+1-800-264-8167 (US only)
info@tgalus.com
www.tgalus.com

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

Dental

902

Over 90% Non-Extraction



Member
American Association of
Orthodontists

Convenient Payment Plans
No Referral Necessary
Evening & Weekends
TriCare Provider

American Orthodontist
Dr. Michael Dillon, DDS, MS (Ortho)
Univ of Maryland, Former USAF
All Treatment Fees in US \$

06371-918911
www.dillonortho.com



Financial Services

904

LOANS up to \$10,000

For Active Duty U.S. Military

Call Toll Free

Germany: 0800 YES-LOAN
Italy/Belgium: 00800 YES-LOANS
Stateside: +1.931.802.6522

www.yesomni.com

"We love to say yes"®

© Omni Financial - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. All loans subject to approval.

Trans Global

LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH

NYK

Transportation

944

Interglobal Shipping GmbH

Specialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada
Autos, Household Goods, Personal Belongings
Contact your Pro's at the Docks today!!!
info@interglobalshipping.de
www.interglobalshipping.de

Tel: (0421) 540-050 Fax: (0421) 540-0505
Toll free: 0800-000-0311

Ship Parks and Containers to and from the USA

WSA

WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENTS

OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri
0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)
For a free rate request, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de
Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de

Are you in the picture?

Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a
better handle on issues that affect you most.
No one covers the bases the way we do.

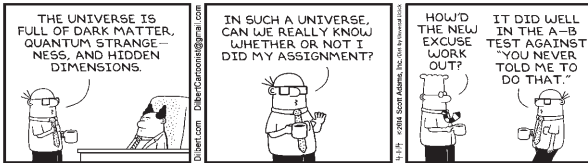
STARS AND STRIPES.

In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



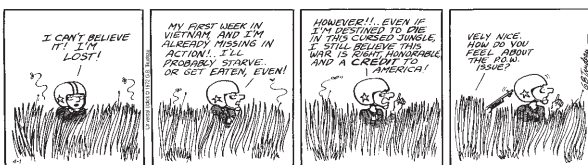
Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18					19				20			
				21				22				
23	24	25				26				27	28	29
30					31					32		
33				34	35				36	37		
				38				39				
40	41	42				43				44	45	46
47					48				49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			

ACROSS

- 1 "— she blows!"
- 5 Scrooge's cry
- 8 Angelic instrument
- 12 Island dance
- 13 Cent portrait
- 14 Chills and fever
- 15 Norwegian saint
- 16 Something unexpected
- 18 Excess
- 20 Dogpatch lad
- 21 Fond cut —, Wis.
- 22 Life story, for short
- 23 Tailor, often
- 26 Dreamlike
- 30 "— Believer"
- 31 Sharp turn
- 32 Compete
- 33 Medical VIP
- 36 Meadow
- 38 Commotion
- 39 Chignon
- 40 Basketball's Stoudemire
- 43 Outlast
- 47 Dutch
- 48 Guiana, now
- 49 "Zounds!"
- 50 Egyptian fertility goddess
- 51 Heavy weight
- 52 Medley component
- 53 Persian ruler
- 54 Past
- 55 Genealogy chart

DOWN

- 1 Paine or Jefferson (Abbr.)
- 2 Video-streaming site
- 3 Winged
- 4 Lottery of a sort
- 5 Fundamental
- 6 Touch
- 7 That girl
- 8 Port
- 9 Not "fer"
- 10 Stratagem
- 11 Equal
- 12 Twosome
- 19 Listener
- 22 Insect
- 23 Family member
- 24 Ostrich's cousin
- 25 Kids' card game
- 26 Transgression
- 27 Night before
- 28 Be sick
- 29 Starfed
- 31 Menagerie
- 34 Flashy
- 35 Paradise
- 36 Bear hair
- 37 Become
- 38 part-owner
- 39 Good, in Guadalajara
- 40 Unrepaired
- 41 Dogsledder's
- 42 Met melody
- 43 Urban pall
- 44 Lab assistant?
- 45 Barn roof decoration
- 46 Advantage
- 48 — g'ance

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	L	A	B		F	A	D		S	A	Y	A
P	A	S	O		E	G	O		A	M	E	X
A	C	A	D		S	E	N	S	I	B	L	E
R	E	P	E	A	T		T	U	L	I	P	S
					G	R	O		B	O	T	
S	E	N	A	T	O	R	S		R	I	P	A
O	V	A		S	N	E	A	K		O	I	L
B	E	T	S		S	E	N	T	E	N	C	E
					I	T	O		K	I	W	I
A	D	O	R	E	S		T	O	T	T	E	R
S	E	N	O	R	I	T	A		H	A	V	E
I	S	A	K		C	A	R		E	R	I	E
F	I	L	E		K	E	Y		R	O	L	L

4-1

CRYPTOQUIP

L V Y L H G M U T A Y U I G C X A Y H
G Y L G B Z X W B G A G X J X H P
G C L B G I G U Z P B G Y L B G J X G M W .

X L ' W L V G L Y A T L V G L T M H .
Yesterday's Cryptquip: OLD COLLEGE WHERE STUDENTS LEARNED THE RIGHT WAY TO FUEL CHEVY CARS: FILL-A-NOVA UNIVERSITY.
Today's Cryptquip Clue: L equals T

FREE Ad Guidelines:

- Free ads are available only DOD ID Card holders selling personal merchandise.
- Ads may contain up to 32 words. All ads must be free and contact information. No websites will be accepted in free ads.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite and reject any ads.

Advertising

Kathryn Peterson kpeterson.kathryn@stars.com

430/631.3615.9000 DSN 314.583.9000

Circulation

Van Howell vhowell@stars.com

430/631.3615.9111 DSN 314.583.9111

Readers Service

letters@stars.com

STARS AND STRIPES
CLASSIFIEDGo to stars.com to place your free ad. **Sell fast! Buy fast!**

EUROPE

MIDDLE EAST

AFRICA

ASIA

OCEANIA

PACIFIC

AMERICA

CANADA

AUSTRALIA

NEW ZEALAND

SOUTH AFRICA

INDIA

CHINA

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

WAYNE VICTOR

McDermott leads AP All-America team

STARS AND STRIPES

AUTO RACING



Mike McCann/AP

Brad Keselowski, left, bumps Kurt Busch as they enter Turn 1 during Sunday's NASCAR Sprint Cup race at Martinsville Speedway. The two drivers were involved in a pit road accident earlier in the race.

Busch's winless streak is over

Confrontations with Keselowski don't knock driver off winning course

By HANK KURZ JR.
The Associated Press

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Kurt Busch couldn't be more delighted with his move to Stewart-Haas Racing.

Six races into the marriage, he ended an 83-race winless streak Sunday at Martinsville Speedway and said he's learning that a better approach to being an actual participant in a team pays big dividends.

"I ran a lot of my early part of my career as an individual and I didn't respect my team, my team owners," Busch said, adding that working with co-owner Tony Stewart is helping him learn a better way.

Busch won by passing Martinsville master Jimmie Johnson for the lead with 10 laps to go and holding off the eight-time winner to win at the track for the first time since October 2002. It was his 25th career Cup-level victory, and Busch seemed enthralled that it came in the most unlikely of venues.

"You've got to put life in perspective, and you have to learn from your mistakes and you can't just sit there and try to muscle your way individually through certain situations," he said of the 450 laps after his pit road confrontation with Brad Keselowski, whose on-track retaliation had Busch threatening to rearrange his face. "And so you rely on your experience level, you rely on your team, and this is a great day for me to be able to lift the trophy in Victory Lane for Stewart-Haas Racing."

Johnson, with eight wins in 25 career starts on the 0.526-mile oval, led 11 times for 296 laps. He seemed on his way to another victory when he took the lead from Busch with 17 laps remaining. But Busch stayed close, ducked underneath Johnson seven laps later and Johnson had no means to challenge again.

"That's all I had," Johnson said. "Man, I ran the rear tires off the car. I flipped every switch and knob I could in there to get front brake and turn fans off and try to help bring my balance back."

Busch held on, his first top-10 finish at Martinsville in his last 17 starts there.

When it was over, Busch brushed aside talk about his in-race comments about his feud with Keselowski, who claimed that Busch "just drove right through me and ruined my day" on pit road, causing Keselowski to lose 30 laps and retaliate.

"He tried to flatten all four of my tires," Busch said of his former teammate with Roger Penske Racing. "That's a no fly zone. ... He will get what he gets back when I decide to give it back."

The race featured an event-record 53 lead changes, and Johnson expected there would be one more when he retook the lead with 17 laps to go, but on a slippery day after a rainy weekend on the smallest circuit in NASCAR's premier series, the cars at the end weren't conducive to typical short-track racing.

"I think the lack of security in our own car kept us from feeling more racy and putting a bumper to someone or really getting inside someone aggressively," Johnson said of the rather gentlemanly finish.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. was third, followed by Joey Logano and Marcos Ambrose.

Here are five other things to know after NASCAR's sixth race of the season:

1 Still no repeats: Through six races, there have been six different pole-sitters and six different race-winners, a trend that is causing some winners to rethink their stance that with a win, they're essentially in the 16-driver playoffs for the final 10 races of the season. Winning certainly gives each of them a leg up because of how much weight it carries in determining the Chase field, but as long as new drivers keep doing burnouts after each race, there's no telling how many winners there will be.

There are 26 races before the Chase.

2 Gene Gene, the doubting machine: Gene Haas was not present for the first victory by the team he funds, and admitted by telephone after Busch's vic-

tory that he was resigned to Jimmie Johnson prevailing.

I was thinking that we would probably pull out in front of Jimmie Johnson and be there for a few laps, but (Johnson) was better on the long run," Haas said. "I was kind of like going, 'Well hey, at least we made a good show.'" Busch also told his new boss via text earlier in the week that Martinsville was his worst track, and then was hardly able to practice because all of Saturday's activity was rained out.

"He doesn't practice on Saturday and he wins," Haas said. "We have a new formula here."

3 Points race: Don't look now, because it's still really early, but Dale Earnhardt Jr., the sports' most popular driver, leads the points race and leads with four top-5 finishes in six races.

Could this be the year that Dale Jr. finally has the year his fans have been waiting for?

4 Fallible Jimmie? Johnson led 11 times for 296 laps on Sunday.

When it was noted that Johnson has had several instances in recent years where his dominance in a race hasn't always led to a victory like he's accustomed to, he first joked about it, then agreed.

But, he said, Sunday's outcome wasn't an example of the kind of failure being suggested.

"Today I couldn't have done any more," Johnson said. "I just got beat."

5 Non winners: Six weeks into the season, with six winners, words like "parity" are starting to be bandied about.

Knee-jerk? Consider: among the drivers that have yet to win a race this season are Jeff Gordon, Matt Kenseth, Johnson, Ryan Newman, Joey Logano, Denny Hamlin, Tony Stewart, Casey Kahne, Greg Biffle and Clint Bowyer. That's a whole bunch of perennial contenders waiting to show they are contenders again.

Scoreboard

STP 500

NASCAR Sprint Cup
Sunday
At Martinsville Speedway
Martinsville, Va.
Lap length: 0.526 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (22) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 500 laps, 115.8 rating, 47 points, \$147,210.
2. (4) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 500, 140.9, 44, \$180,546.
3. (26) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 500, 116.8, 42, \$114,210.
4. (3) Joey Logano, Ford, 500, 121.2, 41, \$142,476.
5. (17) Marcos Ambrose, Ford, 500, 110.2, 40, \$128,265.
6. (2) Matt Kenseth, Toyota, 500, 95.8, 39, \$137,456.
7. (18) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 500, 98.9, 38, \$127,053.
8. (28) Aric Almirola, Ford, 500, 93.8, 36, \$126,106.
9. (12) Clint Bowyer, Toyota, 500, 108.5, 36, \$123,463.
10. (21) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 500, 83.3, 34, \$116,384.
11. (15) A.J. Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 500, 90.34, \$105,845.
12. (5) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 500, 82, 32, \$129,811.
13. (20) Carl Edwards, Ford, 500, 98.1, 31, \$101,975.
14. (1) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 500, 79.2, 31, \$136,491.
15. (34) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 500, 72, 29, \$133,461.
16. (13) Brian Vickers, Toyota, 500, 90.9, 28, \$117,900.
17. (7) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 500, 72.4, 27, \$125,495.
18. (11) Greg Biffle, Ford, 500, 82.7, 27, \$125,495.
19. (2) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 500, 81, 25, \$94,475.
20. (16) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 500, 78.5, 24, \$93,325.
21. (30) Josh Wise, Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 500, 60.6, 23, \$111,708.
22. (35) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 500, 57.1, 21, \$107,433.
23. (23) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 500, 63.4, 20, \$105,133.
24. (23) David Gilliland, Ford, 499, 49.5, 18, \$102,058.
25. (36) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 500, 56.2, 0, 18, \$102,058.
26. (29) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 498, 62.7, 17, \$108,420.
27. (6) David Ragan, Ford, 497, 50.7, 16, \$99,322.
28. (35) Cole Whitt, Toyota, 497, 38.4, 15, \$78,939.
29. (30) Ryan Truex Jr., Toyota, 496, 43.9, 14, \$82,892.
30. (40) Michael Annett, Chevrolet, 494, 32, \$103,775.
31. (20) Danica Patrick, Chevrolet, 494, 32, \$103,775.
32. (39) Travis Kvapil, Ford, 493, 35.8, 12, \$77,850.
33. (22) Reed Sorenson, Chevrolet, 492, 36.1, 10, \$77,725.
34. (20) Josh Wise, Chevrolet, 492, 34.7, 9, \$77,675.
35. (30) Alex Bowman, Toyota, 488, 46.3, 8, \$77,625.
36. (32) Michael McDowell, Ford, 487, 35.9, 7, \$77,527.
37. (1) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 469, 44, 3, \$103,775.
38. (14) David Stremme, Chevrolet, 440, 29.1, 5, \$69,100.
39. (37) David Stremme, Chevrolet, 440, 29.1, 5, \$69,100.
40. (41) Parker Kligerman, Toyota, 408, 25.1, 3, \$66,500.
41. (41) Parker Kligerman, Toyota, 408, 25.1, 3, \$66,500.
42. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.
43. (1) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 408, 25.1, 3, \$66,500.
44. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.
45. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.
46. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.
47. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.
48. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.
49. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.
50. (30) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 409, 49.8, 4, \$100,925.

Average Speed of Race: 138.3 mph.

Caution Flags: 14 for 92 laps.

Lead Changes: 33 among 12 drivers.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

Fastest Lap: 1:10.54 by Clint Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 17-20.

AUTO RACING

Crafton earns first win at Martinsville

By HANK KURZ JR.
The Associated Press

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Matt Crafton grabbed the lead for the first time with 47 laps to go and held on to win the rain-delayed Truck Series race at Martinsville Speedway on Sunday night for his fourth career victory.

It also was his first on the 0.526-mile paper clip, and a study in steady improvement.

"If you don't have the best car or truck there at the beginning of a run, you make changes throughout the race. It's about having a smart crew chief and someone putting their head on their shoulders and not tearing the stuff up," he said, crediting crew chief Carl Joiner for adjustments all race long.

"It's not so much stealing," Crafton said. "It's about beating them at the end when it counts."

Crafton, the defending series champion, passed local favorite Timothy Peters on the inside of the fourth turn to grab the top spot, then survived two two-lap sprints to the finish. The green-white-checked run extended the race to 256 laps, leaving Craft-

ton jokingly complaining about darkness.

After 24 previous starts at Martinsville, he was envisioning the track's signature trophy, a grandfather clock, in his living room at home, and not wanting to let anything get in the way.

"It's definitely one of those places that you want to win at just because that grandfather clock is such an awesome trophy to have in your house," he said. "Finally we got it. ... It's awesome."

Crafton became the 23rd driver to win in 31 truck races at Martinsville.

Darrell Wallace was second, followed by Ben Kennedy, Johnny Sauter and Ryan Blaney.

Wallace said his team struggled all day, too, after getting practice time in on Friday, then having qualifying rained out Saturday before racing after the Cup Series had run, changing conditions again.

"I thought I had enough saved for those last two (dashes), but we just couldn't get it done," he said. Kennedy, conversely, wished he'd had more time to make a move.

"We were really rolling there at the end. I was really excited for it. I wish we'd had another 10 laps or so. I think we could have gotten up there and got 'em," Kennedy said.

Sauter and Peters were the hard-luck racers on the day.

Sauter led three times for a race-high 61 laps; Peters led six times for 49 laps.

The race, postponed by rain Saturday and run as part of a rare doubleheader following a 500-lap Sprint Cup race, was just the second of the season in the series, following the opener at Daytona on Feb. 17. The series will again take a long break, not racing again until May 9 in Kansas.

This one started at about 5:30 p.m., and finished with the sun setting and temperatures dropping.



CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

Will Power, left, leads Ryan Hunter-Reay and Helio Castroneves into Turn 10 with 17 laps remaining Sunday in the IndyCar Grand Prix of St. Petersburg in St. Petersburg, Fla. Power won the race.

Power dominates opener

Penske driver wins for fourth time in last 6 IndyCar races

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Will Power picked up right where he left off last season, in Victory Lane, for the fourth time in the last six IndyCar Series races.

Power won the IndyCar Series season-opening race Sunday through the streets of St. Petersburg with a dominating run. He passed pole-sitter Takuma Sato for the lead with an outside move headed into the second turn on Lap 31, and the Australian was never really challenged again.

Power had to beat Team Penske teammate Helio Castroneves off pit lane during stops under caution, and it seemed easy from there, even though he said he was exhausted.

"I'm pretty tired, actually. There was only one yellow period," Power said. "Mentally tired, it was physical."

Power won three of the final five races last year, including the final two. And it was fitting that he continued it on the temporary street course through St. Pete, where he has always been a factor for the win.

He started on the pole four consecutive years, but only had one win to show for it, in 2010. He led 26 laps a year ago, but was run over from behind under caution to lose a shot at the win.

Power did have one hiccup — he was the leader and was slow to restart the field with 28 laps remaining. It caused traffic to stack-up behind him and led

to a crash involving rookie Jack Hawksworth and Marco Andretti.

Power said he never braked and was confused because the field went green earlier than it should.

"They threw the green early. I thought we were meant to go in that (starting) zone," Power said. "I was surprised. I didn't even know what happened behind me. I lifted a little, I didn't check the brake at all. They can review my data, I didn't touch the brake."

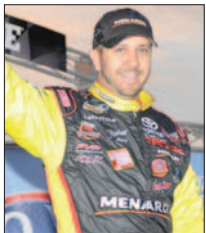
Castroneves, who was behind Power on the restart, wasn't so certain.

"I have to see the restart. I have to be political," he said, shrugging because Power is his Team Penske teammate. "He played a little bit."

Ryan Hunter-Reay finished second, Castroneves was third and defending IndyCar champion Scott Dixon fourth.

Juan Pablo Montoya finished 15th in his return to IndyCar for the first time since he left for Formula One following his Indianapolis 500 win in 2000. He spent almost five seasons in F1 and seven in NASCAR before returning to open-wheel with Roger Penske.

Reigning Indianapolis 500 winner Tony Kanaan finished sixth in his debut race for Target/Chip Ganassi Racing. He replaced three-time Indy 500 winner Daro Franchitti in the car when Franchitti was forced to retire because of injuries suffered in a crash in October.



MIKE MCCANN/AP

Driver Matt Crafton celebrates in Victory Lane after winning Sunday's NASCAR Truck Series race at Martinsville Speedway in Martinsville, Va.



In the Middle East?
Enter for your chance to win an all-new 2015 Audi A3
that's built to your exact specifications.



To Enter Scan Here Or Visit:
militaryautosource.com/AudiA3



LiveChat

Speak with a representative online 24/7 at militaryautosource.com
Product Questions • Order Your Vehicle • Customer Service

No purchase necessary to enter. The giveaway is open to active U.S. Military Personnel and Attached Civilians, 18 years or older with a valid driver's license stationed outside the United States. Limit of one entry per person. Contest ends Thursday July 31, 2014. Vehicle available for Europe or Stateside delivery. For complete rules and regulations visit militaryautosource.com. Vehicle shown is for illustration only, and may not accurately depict prize vehicle. Program and guarantees are subject to terms and conditions. Offered by Overseas Military Sales Corporation • OMSC Ltd. (MAS 433 SS)



MAS
MILITARY AUTOSOURCE

NHL



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

The Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby (87) works the puck in the corner against the Chicago Blackhawks' Peter Regin (12) in the second period of Sunday's game in Pittsburgh. Crosby scored twice to lead the Penguins to a 4-1 win.

Roundup

Double loss for Blackhawks

Chicago captain Toews suffers upper-body injury in defeat at Pittsburgh

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The reeling Chicago Blackhawks took another hard hit. The Pittsburgh Penguins appear to be coming together at just the right time.

Sidney Crosby scored two goals in the final five minutes, helping the Penguins to a 4-1 victory over the injury-riddled Blackhawks on Sunday night.

"I thought this was one of our most physical games of the year," Penguins coach Dan Bylsma said. "We saw it from the beginning of the game until the end."

The biggest hit came in the second period.

Already playing without Patrick Kane, the Blackhawks lost captain Jonathan Toews to an upper-body injury when he was drilled by Penguins defenseman Brooks Orpik. Toews was holding his left arm on the bench before heading down the runway for good in the second.

Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville didn't believe the injury to Toews was serious, characterizing it as day to day.

"We'll get a better assessment tomorrow," Quenneville said.

James Neal and Lee Stempnjak also scored for the Penguins, who won their second straight and snapped a three-game home losing streak. Marc-Andre Fleury made 25 saves in his 36th victory of the season.

Orpik's hit on Toews occurred with 6:30 remaining in the middle period. The two were going for a loose puck.

"It was a big hit," Blackhawks forward Patrick Sharp said. "You could tell he was trying to hit him hard. He knew who he was hit-



Presidents' Trophy race

	W	L	OT	Pts	Gms
Boston	52	17	6	110	7
St. Louis	50	17	7	107	8
Anaheim	48	18	8	104	6
San Jose	47	20	9	103	8
Pittsburgh	48	22	5	101	7
Colorado	47	21	6	100	8
Chicago	42	19	15	99	6

SOURCE: The Associated Press

ing. It's tough when you see your captain get hit like that."

Quenneville said he needed to see a replay of Orpik's hit. Bylsma said he only saw the hit live, and believed it was clean. Orpik agreed.

"There's no penalty, so I don't know," Orpik said. "I think that hit happens 10 times a game."

It's been a rough stretch for injuries for the defending Stanley Cup champions, who will be without star forward Kane for the rest of the regular season because of a lower-body injury. Bryan Bickell is out with an upper-body injury but is expected to return soon.

The injury to Toews galvanized the Blackhawks, who dominated play in the third period. But Fleury held up just fine.

Crosby capped a 2-on-1 rush for Pittsburgh at 15:09 of the third, sending a wrist shot over the shoulder of Blackhawks goaltender Corey Crawford. He added an empty-netter with 1:16 left for his 36th goal and league-leading 99th point of the season.

Bruins 4, Flyers 3 (SO): Patrice Bergeron scored in the second period, leading Boston to the shootout, leading Boston to the

victory over host Philadelphia.

Reilly Smith, the fifth Boston shooter, clinched the victory in the tiebreaker. The Bruins went 15-1 in March.

Red Wings 3, Lightning 2: David Legwand had a goal and an assist as host Detroit held off Tampa Bay to move into seventh place in the Eastern Conference.

Joakim Andersson and Gustav Nyquist also scored for Detroit, and Jonas Gustavsson stopped 26 shots. Valteri Filppula and Sami Salo scored for Tampa Bay and Ben Bishop made 27 saves.

Rangers 5, Oilers 0: Backup Cam Talbot stopped 26 shots for his third career shutout and Rick Nash and Mats Zuccarello scored two goals apiece to lead visiting New York over Edmonton for its sixth win in seven games.

Senators 6, Flames 3: Milan Michalek and Kyle Turris had two goals apiece, leading host Ottawa over Calgary.

Predators 4, Capitals 3 (SO): Craig Smith scored the only goal in the shootout to lead Nashville over Washington.

Patric Hornqvist scored two goals and Shea Weber added another for Nashville. Troy Brouwer scored twice and Nicklas Backstrom had the other goal for Washington. The Capitals have lost three straight.

Senators 6, Flames 3: Milan Michalek and Kyle Turris had two goals apiece, leading host Ottawa over Calgary.

Robin Lehner made 37 saves as the Senators won back-to-back games on home ice for the first time since they won three straight in late December and early January.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GA
Atlantic Division						
Boston	75	52	18	5	110	94
Montreal	76	43	26	7	93	189
Tampa Bay	75	39	29	7	81	223
Metro Division						
x-Pittsburgh	75	48	22	5	101	232
N.Y. Rangers	74	42	24	8	88	208
Philadelphia	76	39	27	8	86	213
Wild Card						
Detroit	75	35	26	14	84	202
Columbus	74	38	30	6	82	208
Washington	75	34	28	13	81	217
Toronto	76	33	32	8	80	220
New Jersey	74	31	28	15	77	178
Ottawa	74	31	24	9	76	149
Carolina	74	32	32	10	74	186
N.Y. Islanders	75	28	10	6	68	247
Florida	75	27	40	8	62	179
Buffalo	74	20	45	9	49	142

Western Conference

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GA
Central Division						
x-St. Louis	74	50	17	7	107	240
x-Colorado	74	47	21	6	100	227
x-Chicago	74	42	19	15	99	248
Pacific Division						
x-Vancouver	74	48	18	8	104	239
x-San Jose	76	47	20	9	103	284
N.Y. Islanders	74	47	20	9	103	284
Los Angeles	74	47	20	9	103	284
Wild Card						
Minnesota	75	36	21	8	81	186
Phoenix	75	36	27	12	84	206
Dallas	74	36	27	11	83	214
Vancouver	76	34	31	11	79	184
Nashville	76	33	32	11	77	199
Winnipeg	75	33	32	10	76	192
Calgary	75	31	37	7	69	193
Edmonton	74	28	40	9	61	184

Note: Top three teams in each division and two wild-card teams will have the most points in either division of each conference qualify for the playoffs. Two points are awarded for a win, one point for overtime loss.

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Saturday's games
N.Y. Islanders 2, New Jersey 1, SO
Boston 6, Washington 3, OT
Colorado 3, San Jose 2

Sunday's games
Tampa Bay 4, Buffalo 3, OT
Detroit 3, Carolina 2, OT
Montreal 4, Florida 1
Columbus 3, Carolina 2, OT
Dallas 4, St. Louis 2
Anaheim 5, Vancouver 1
Los Angeles 4, Winnipeg 2
San Jose 3, Washington 3, SO
Ottawa 6, Calgary 3
Pittsburgh 4, Tampa Bay 2
Pittsburgh 4, Chicago 1
N.Y. Rangers 5, Edmonton 0

Monday's games
Carolina at Ottawa
Florida at New Jersey
Winnipeg at Anaheim
Minnesota at Los Angeles

Tuesday's games
New Jersey at Buffalo
Calgary at Toronto
Florida at N.Y. Islanders
Carolina at Pittsburgh
Dallas at Washington
Colorado at Columbus
Montreal at Tampa Bay
Colorado 3, St. Louis 2
N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver
Pittsburgh at Phoenix
Edmonton at San Jose

Wednesday
Washington 3, Nashville 1
Nashville won shootout 1-0
N.Y. Islanders 2, Washington 1
Green Bay Packers 27-20, Nashville 17-13
Nashville, Hornqvist 17, 18-30

Senior's games
Nashville, Hornqvist 17, 18-30
Senators 6, Flames 3, 5-55
Nashville, Hornqvist 17, 18-30

First Period—5: Nashville, Weber 21 (Fisher, Cullen), 8-23, 6, Washington, Backstrom 25 (Stempnjak, Nash), 11-11
N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver
Pittsburgh at Phoenix
Edmonton at San Jose

Second Period—5: Nashville, Weber 21 (Fisher, Cullen), 8-23, 6, Washington, Backstrom 25 (Stempnjak, Nash), 11-11
N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver
Pittsburgh at Phoenix
Edmonton at San Jose

Third Period—5: Nashville, Weber 21 (Fisher, Cullen), 8-23, 6, Washington, Backstrom 25 (Stempnjak, Nash), 11-11
N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver
Pittsburgh at Phoenix
Edmonton at San Jose

Shootout—Washington 0 (Kuznetsov) 1 (Jarrold) 0, Nashville 0 (Nashville) 1 (Jarrold) 0, Nashville 0 (Nashville) 1 (Jarrold) 0

Shots on goal—Washington 7-9-7-3-26, Nashville 11-8-7-3-26

Power-play opportunities—Washington 10-10-10-10-40, Nashville 10-10-10-10-40

Goals—Washington, Halak 28-11-7 (26 shots-26 saves), Nashville, Hutton 18-11-4 (26-23)

A-16,553 (17,113), T-2:48.

Rangers 5, Oilers 0
Edmonton 1-0-0-0-1
First Period—1, Oilers, Backstrom 16 (Stralman, Poulter), 16-30

Second Period—5: Rangers, Backstrom 16 (Stralman, Poulter), 16-30
Nashville, Hornqvist 17, 18-30

Third Period—5: Nashville, Weber 21 (Fisher, Cullen), 8-23, 6, Washington, Backstrom 25 (Stempnjak, Nash), 11-11
N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver
Pittsburgh at Phoenix
Edmonton at San Jose

Shootout—Washington 0 (Kuznetsov) 1 (Jarrold) 0, Nashville 0 (Nashville) 1 (Jarrold) 0

Shots on goal—Washington 7-9-7-3-26, Nashville 11-8-7-3-26

Power-play opportunities—Washington 10-10-10-10-40, Nashville 10-10-10-10-40

Goals—Washington, Halak 28-11-7 (26 shots-26 saves), Nashville, Hutton 18-11-4 (26-23)

A-16,553 (17,113), T-2:48.

Rangers 5, Oilers 0
Edmonton 1-0-0-0-1
First Period—1, Oilers, Backstrom 16 (Stralman, Poulter), 16-30

Second Period—5: Rangers, Backstrom 16 (Stralman, Poulter), 16-30
Nashville, Hornqvist 17, 18-30

Third Period—5: Nashville, Weber 21 (Fisher, Cullen), 8-23, 6, Washington, Backstrom 25 (Stempnjak, Nash), 11-11
N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver
Pittsburgh at Phoenix
Edmonton at San Jose

Shootout—Washington 0 (Kuznetsov) 1 (Jarrold) 0, Nashville 0 (Nashville) 1 (Jarrold) 0

Shots on goal—Washington 7-9-7-3-26, Nashville 11-8-7-3-26

Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 10-10-10-10-40, Nashville 10-10-10-10-40

Goals—N.Y. Rangers, Talbot 12-6 (26 shots-26 saves), Edmonton, Servino 14-14-4 (32-27)

A-16,539 (16,839), T-2:24.

Penguins 4, Blackhawks 1

Chicago	0	1	0-1
Pittsburgh	2	0	2-4

First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Neal 24 (Jokinen, Bortuzzo), 9:44, 2, Pittsburgh, Stempniak 11 (Niskanen, Kunitz), 10:05.

Second Period—3, Chicago, Brookbank 2 (Sharp, Leddy), 11:10.

Third Period—4, Pittsburgh, Crosby 35 (Kunitz), 15:09, 5, Pittsburgh, Crosby 36 (Mastromatteo, Berg), 18:44 (enr.).

Shots on Goal—Chicago 6-11-9-26, Pittsburgh 8-11-8-27.

Power-play opportunities—Chicago 0 of 1; Pittsburgh 0 of 2.

Goals—Chicago, Crawford 29-15-10 (26 shots-23 saves), Pittsburgh, Fleury 36-17 (25-26).

A-18,655 (18,387). T-2:27.

Senators 6, Flames 3

Calgary	1	2	0-3
Ottawa	2	1	0-6
First Period—1:	Ottawa, Michalek 15 (Karlsson, Hemsky), 10-42, 2, Calgary, Stajan 12 (Hudler, Glencross), 13-23, 3, Ottawa, Michalek 16 (Spezza, Hemsky), 19-37		
Second Period—4:	Calgary, Byron 7 (Backlund, Cammalleri), 25-9, 5, Calgary, Monahan 20 (Hudler, Colborne), 7-25, 6, Ottawa, Turris 24 (Maddipati), 10-24, 7		
Third Period—7:	Ottawa, Cowen 6 (Zachary), 10-24, 7, Ottawa, MacArthur 12 (Hudler, Glencross), 12-22, 9, Calgary, Turris 25, 18-39 (9)		
Shots on Goal—Calgary	13-21-6=40.	Ottawa	13-9-15=37.
Power-play opportunities—Calgary	0 of 3; Ottawa of 2.		
Goals—Calgary, Rame	14-12-6 (36 shots-31 saves)	Ottawa, Lehner	9-15-6 (40-37).
A-18,505 (19,153), T-2:27.			

Red Wings 3, Lightning 2

Red Wings 3, Lightning 0

Tampa Bay	1	0	1-2
Detroit	2	1	0-3

First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Filppula 25 (8-20, 2), Detroit, Andersson 8 (Helm, Alfredsson), 11-08, 3, Detroit, Nyquist 27 (Legwand), 15-24.

Second Period—4, Detroit, Legwand 13 (Franzen, Kronwall), 16-36 (pp).

Third Period—5, Tampa Bay, Salo 4 (Kucherov), 15-31.

Shots on Goal—Tampa Bay 6-13-9-28, Detroit 12-8-10-30.

Power-play opportunities—Tampa Bay 0 of 4; Detroit 1 of 3.

Goals—Tampa Bay, Bishop 36-12-7 (30 shots-27 saves), Detroit, Gustavsson 16-43 (20-26).

A-20,066 (20,066). T-2:26.

Bruins 4, Flyers 3 (SO)

Boston	1	2	0	0	4
Philadelphia	2	0	1	0	3
Boston won shootout 2-1					
First Period—2: Boston, Lecavaler 17 (Hail), 5-25; 2, Boston, Meszaros (Marchand, Hamilton), 10-43; 3, Philadelphia, Timonen 5 (Voracek), 19-18					
Second Period—4: Boston, Chah 17 (Giroux, Krejci), 5-24 (pp), 5; Boston, Bergeron 27 (Smith, Bartkowski), 11-05					
Third Period—5: Philadelphia, Lecavaler 18 (Voracek, Timonen), 15-11, 2					
Fourth Period—5: Boston, Lecavaler 18 (Voracek, Timonen), 15-11, 2					
Shots on goal—Boston 10-13-6-31, Philadelphia 11-16-11-38					
Power-play opportunities—Boston 1 of 2; Philadelphia 0 of 4					
Goals—Boston, Lecavaler 34-14-5 (52 shots-49 saves), Philadelphia, Mason 31-17 (37-37)					
A=19,598 (19,541), T=2:47.					

Leaders

	GP	A	Pts
Sidney Crosby, Pit	75	36	63
Ryan Getzlaf, Ana	70	30	51
Clayton Kershaw, Phi	74	33	44
Phil Kessel, Dal	76	36	41
Tyler Seguin, Dal	72	32	44

Through March 30

	GP	A	Pts
Sidney Crosby, Pit	75	36	63
Ryan Getzlaf, Ana	70	30	51
Clayton Kershaw, Phi	74	33	44
Phil Kessel, Dal	76	36	41
Tyler Seguin, Dal	72	32	44

Adrian Wylde, The Canadian Press/AP

Ottawa's Chris Neil, right, sends Calgary's Mike Goffredo into the boards during the first period of Sunday's game in Ottawa.

MLB/COLLEGE HOCKEY



LENNY IONELZ/AP

The Padres' Everth Cabrera, right, celebrates with Yasmani Grandal after the pair scored in the Padres' three-run eighth inning rally against the Los Angeles Dodgers in the the MLB opening game on Sunday in San Diego. The Padres won 3-1.

Padres edge LA in opener

By BERNIE WILSON
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The moderate-payroll San Diego Padres pulled one over on the big-pending Los Angeles Dodgers.

Seth Smith hit a towering drive for a tying homer leading off the eighth inning and Chris Denorfia singled home two runs to give the Padres a 3-1 victory against the rival Dodgers in baseball's North American opener Sunday night.

The Dodgers set a record with an Opening-Day payroll of \$234 million. The Padres are 23rd at just under \$90 million.

Padres closer Huston Street, who pitched a perfect ninth for the save, said he has no problem with the discrepancy.

"They've got a lot of talent and their talent has earned those salaries," Street said. "They're not just given. At the same time, a lot of guys in this locker room are young guys. They haven't hit that free agency mark. They haven't hit those big salary years. We could be sitting on a higher payroll team. You don't worry about it too much just because baseball is such a game of execution."

The Padres out-executed the Dodgers.

Smith's first hit with the Padres came on a 2-0 pitch from Brian Wilson, who started the eighth after Hyun-Jin Ryu threw seven scoreless innings. It sailed an estimated 360 feet into the right-field seats. It was his seventh career pinch-hit homer. He was acquired in an offseason trade with Oakland for reliever Luke Gregerson.

Wilson (0-1) walked pinch-hitter Yasmani Grandal, who advanced when the veteran reliever couldn't handle Everth Cabrera's bunt for an error. Grandal stole second and Cabrera took second on indifference before Denorfia hit a bouncer up the middle to bring them both in.

"They're all just one game, but when you're facing a team like the Dodgers, full of great players, Brian Wilson, a guy who knows how to get in those situations, it's not easy to do what our hitters did," Street said. "To come back and get three right there in that situation, especially after leaving guys on base early, that's what this team is going to have to do to win. We're going to have to battle all year long."

Dale Thayer (4-0) pitched a perfect eighth for the win.

Smith was acquired to provide a left-handed bat off the bench. He went deep on a cutter.

"You get in the box and it's an at-bat," he said. "As a professional

ballplayer, you hope that you can kind of flush the fact that it's your first at-bat with your team or it's in a big spot or whatever, and just do what you've been, practicing for the last six weeks."

Wilson said it was tough to deal with because Ryu "pitched such a marvelous game. It's a hard one to swallow."

He said he threw a pitch "that was a little bit uncharacteristic of me. Right then and there, the tire deflated."

The defending NL West champion Dodgers had started the regular season with a two-game sweep of the Arizona Diamondbacks in Sydney.

Ryu got the start after reigning NL Cy Young Award winner Clayton Kershaw was scratched due to a swollen back muscle and then placed on the 15-day disabled list for the first time in his seven-year career.

In a scheduling quirk, the left-hander started consecutive regular-season games. He made his season debut a week earlier, when the Dodgers beat the Diamondbacks in their second game in Australia.

Ryu retired 16 in a row from the second inning until one out in the seventh. He then walked rookie Tommy Medica, who was then erased in a 3-6-3 double play.

Ryu allowed three hits, struck out seven and walked three.

The Dodgers grabbed the lead on a nice piece of hitting by Carl Crawford with two outs in the fifth.

Crawford went the other way with a 0-2 pitch from Andrew Cashner, hitting it over third baseman Chase Headley to bring in Dee Gordon from second. Gordon had reached on a walk and advanced when Cashner fielded Ryu's bunt and forced A.J. Ellis at third.

Cashner allowed four hits in six innings. He struck out five and walked two.



GREGORY BULL/AP

Dodgers starting pitcher Hyun-Jin Ryu throws to the Padres on Sunday in San Diego. Ryu got the start after NL Cy Young winner Clayton Kershaw was put on the 15-day disabled list with a swollen back muscle. Ryu allowed three hits, struck out seven and walked three in seven innings.

Scoreboard

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	0	0	.000	—
Boston	0	0	.000	—
New York	0	0	.000	—
Tampa Bay	0	0	.000	—
Toronto	0	0	.000	—
Central Division				
Chicago	0	0	.000	—
Cleveland	0	0	.000	—
Detroit	0	0	.000	—
Kansas City	0	0	.000	—
Minnesota	0	0	.000	—
West Division				
Houston	0	0	.000	—
Los Angeles	0	0	.000	—
Oakland	0	0	.000	—
Seattle	0	0	.000	—
Texas	0	0	.000	—
Sunday's games				
No games scheduled				
Monday's games				
Kansas City at Detroit				
Philadelphia at Texas				
Boston at Baltimore				
Minnesota at Chicago White Sox				
Toronto at Tampa Bay				
Cleveland at Oakland				
Seattle at L.A. Angels				
Tuesday's games				
N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 0-0) at Houston (Feldman 0-0)				
Toronto (Hutchinson 0-0) at Tampa Bay (Cobb 0-0)				
Philadelphia (Burnett 0-0) at Texas (Molina 0-0)				
Cleveland (Kluber 0-0) at Oakland (Kasey 0-0)				
Seattle (Ramirez 0-0) at L.A. Angels (Wilson 0-0)				

National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	0	0	.000	—
Miami	0	0	.000	—
New York	0	0	.000	—
Philadelphia	0	0	.000	—
Washington	0	0	.000	—
Central Division				
Chicago	0	0	.000	—
Cincinnati	0	0	.000	—
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	—
Pittsburgh	0	0	.000	—
St. Louis	0	0	.000	—
West Division				
San Diego	1	0	1.000	—
Los Angeles	2	1	.667	—
San Francisco	0	0	.000	½
Arizona	0	0	.000	½
Sunday's games				
San Diego 3, L.A. Dodgers 1				
Monday's games				
Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh				
Washington at N.Y. Mets				
Philadelphia at Texas				
Atlanta at Milwaukee				
St. Louis at Cincinnati				
Colorado at Miami				
San Francisco at Arizona				
Tuesday's games				
L.A. Dodgers (Greinke 0-0) at San Diego (Kennedy 0-0)				
Couderc (Anderson 0-0) at Miami (Eovaldi 0-0)				
Atlanta (Wood 0-0) at Milwaukee (Lohse 0-0)				
San Francisco (Cain 0-0) at Arizona (Miley 0-1)				

Padres 3, Dodgers 1												
Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi	San Diego	ab	r	h	bi			
Cruz	4	0	1	0	ECarr	ss	2	0	0			
Priddy	1	0	0	0	Denorfia	r	4	0	2			
Holmes	ss	4	0	0	Headly	3b	4	0	0			
Adair	1b	0	0	0	Gyorko	2b	3	0	0			
Ethier	cf	4	0	0	Alonso	1b	4	0	0			
Urbie	3b	1	0	0	Medica	if	3	0	1			
Azile	c	3	0	2	Street	p	0	0	0			
Dorson	2b	1	0	1	Medica	cf	0	0	0			
Ryu	p	3	0	0	Rivera	c	2	0	0			
BWSP	p	0	0	0	S. Smith	ph	1	1	1			
C. Perez	1b	0	0	0	Medica	cf	0	0	0			
PRodriguez	p	0	0	0	Cashner	p	1	0	0			
					Adair	3b	0	0	0			
					ATorres	p	0	0	0			
					Thayer	p	0	0	0			
					Grandall	ph	0	0	0			
Totals	31	1	4	1	Totals	27	3	5	3			
Los Angeles	0	0	0	0	San Diego	0	0	0	0			
San Diego	0	0	0	0	E-Ad.Gonzalez (1), B.Wilson (1), D-Adair (1), C. Perez (1), S. Smith (1), S-B-Grandall (1), S-E-Cabrera, Cashner.							

Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
B.Wilson	L-0.1 BS-1.0	2	0	2	2	1
C.Perez	1	1	0	0	0	1
Rodriguez	1	0	0	0	0	1
San Diego						
Cashner	6	4	0	1	2	5
Vincott	1	0	0	0	0	1
ATorres	1	0	0	0	0	1
W-J-O	1	0	0	0	0	1
Street	1.1	1	0	0	0	1
Wilson	5	1	0	0	0	1
A.Torres	1-249, A-65,567 (42,302)					

Calendar	
May 14-15	Owners meetings, New York.
June 5	Amateur draft.
July 5	All-Star game, Minneapolis.
July 18	Deadline for amateur draft picks to sign.

Frozen Four

Gophers, Eagles moving on

The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Justin Kloos made sure Minnesota didn't waste its chance to face one of its oldest rivals on the game's biggest stage.

Kloos scored twice and Adam Wilcox made 24 saves to help the top-seeded Gophers beat St. Cloud State 4-0 on Sunday night in the NCAA West Regional final.

Minnesota (27-6-1) will face North Dakota in the Frozen Four semifinals in Philadelphia on April 10. Boston College will play Union in the other semifinal.

The Minnesota-North Dakota rivalry dates to 1930. Before this year, the last time the two former WCHA foes hadn't met in the regular season was 1946-47. The Gophers left the conference and won the inaugural Big Ten title this season, while North Dakota finished second in the new NCHC, then slipped into the tournament as a No. 4 seed in the Midwest.

"I almost had a kind of inkling about it once North Dakota won the national championship," coach Don Lucia said. "It's like, 'I guess we have to win now, because we can't go a year without playing.'"

The Gophers are making their third trip to the Frozen Four since winning national titles in 2002 and 2003. They lost to North Dakota in the semifinals in 2005 and fell to Boston College in the semis two years ago. They can avenge both of those defeats this year.

"Going to the Frozen Four, it never gets old. It's a thrill," Lucia said. "To be able to come back this year and get back to Philadelphia, it's a real credit to our group of guys."

Kloos opened the scoring on a wraparound with 8:51 to go in the first period, beating Huskies goalie Ryan Faragher, who was scrambling back to the crease after getting tangled up in traffic.

"I think that we got some momentum right away with our first shift getting in deep and then we just kept going," Kloos said. "There was no doubt in our minds that we were going to be able to keep the momentum after that first one went in."

Seth Ambroz and Kloos scored in the second period, and Kyle Ray capped the scoring with a power-play goal in the third.

Wilcox, the Big Ten player of the year and a Hobey Baker Award candidate, had his fourth shutout of the season.

Boston College 4, UMass-Lowell 3: Ian McCoshen scored with 8:44 left and top defenseman College reached the Frozen Four for the 11th time in 17 years.

Boston College (28-7-4) is seeking its fourth NCAA championship in seven seasons.

Boston College's Johnny Gaudreau, the nation's leading scorer, was up next against Boston College by Bill Arnold and Kevin Hayes.

NCAA WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT

Roundup

Thomas, Maryland upset No. 1 seed Tennessee

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Maryland coach Brenda Frese wanted her Terrapins to send a reminder that they're still playing too. They did just that by sending home an eight-time national champion and putting themselves a win away from a Final Four.

Alyssa Thomas scored a career-high 33 points and grabbed 13 rebounds as fourth-seeded Maryland upset No. 1 seed Tennessee 73-62 on Sunday in the Louisville Region semifinal.

Maryland celebrated with a brief message on a board in the locker room: "THEY KNOW OUR NAME NOW!"

"Maybe people will start talking about Maryland and what Maryland's accomplished," Frese said. "We have a story, too. We have tradition. I'm so proud of how these kids fought."

The Terrapins (27-6) reached their ninth regional final and first since 2012. They did it against a program the Terps had beaten only four times previously and never before in the NCAA tournament. Maryland improved to 5-10 against Tennessee (29-6).

Guard Katie Rutan said Frese fired them up before tipoff.

"No one has really been talking about us all year," Rutan said. "Just to come out and throw that punch, show them that we're here, we are Maryland and we are going down fighting no matter what. We're going to come out on top."

The Lady Vols' self-titled "GrindFor9" in their chase for a ninth national championship is over. They will miss the Final Four for a sixth straight season. This hurts even more with the na-

tional championship game being played April 8 in Nashville, just 179 miles from their home in Knoxville.

"We're Tennessee and we're not happy that we're not playing for a national championship," Tennessee coach Holly Warlick said. "That's in our DNA."

Thomas scored the most points allowed to a single player by Tennessee this season, and she also extended her school record with her 65th career double-double. Lexie Brown added 14 points, Laurin Mincy had 11 and Shatori Walker-Kimbrough 10. But Warlick said Thomas hurt them the most with Tennessee unable to find a way to stop her.

"She did just about everything she wanted to do," Warlick said.

Meighan Simmons scored 31 points for Tennessee.

Jasmine Jones also had 11 points for Tennessee, which had won 15 of its past 16 games. Andraya Carter covered her face with her jersey walking off the floor, while another Lady Vol walked off with a towel over her head. Cierra Burdick sat crying with a towel over her head after a loss that sophomore Baahara Graves called different from others.

"Just knowing that we're not going to make it to the Final Four is kind of heartbreaking," Graves said.

Louisville 73, LSU 47: Shoni Schimmel scored 19 points, Tia Gibbs added five three-pointers and the third-seeded Lady Cardinals rolled the seventh-seeded Tigers to reach the regional final of the NCAA tournament.

Facing an injury-riddled LSU squad that dressed just eight players, the Cardinals (33-4) rung



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Maryland forward Alyssa Thomas, left, goes up to shoot against Tennessee guard Andraya Carter on Sunday during the first half of their regional semifinal in Louisville, Ky.

up another rout highlighted by a season-best 12 three-pointers with the two seniors leading the way. Schimmel was 3-for-5 from beyond the arc and three other Cardinals contributed.

LSU (21-13) on the other hand went 31 minutes with just Dani-

elle Ballard (24 points), Jasmine Rhodes (eight) and Theresa Plaisance (seven) scoring before other Tigers chipped in. By then the game was out of hand and the Tigers shot just 24 percent from the field.

Stanford Regional

Stanford 82, Penn St. 57: Chinye Ogumwike had 29 points and 15 rebounds, Mikaela Ruef produced a career performance on both ends, and the second-seeded Cardinal reached the regional final on its home floor.

The Cardinal (32-3) built a big first-half lead and rolled against the third-seeded Lady Lions (24-8) to move into Tuesday's regional final against North Carolina.

Ruef recovered from getting poked in the eye early to contribute 11 points, 13 rebounds, five assists and two steals. She was cheered at every chance by the raucous home crowd at Maples Pavilion. Amber Orange added 18 points in Stanford's ninth straight NCAA tournament home win.

Ariel Edwards scored 22 points for the Lady Lions, while leading scorer Maggie Lucas was held scoreless in the second half and finished with six.

North Carolina 65, South Carolina 58: Diamond DeShields escaped two close calls with injury to score 19 points, leading the Tar Heels one win closer to a sweet reunion with healing coach Sylvia Hatchell, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia. Hatchell's doctors have said she could travel to the Final Four in Nashville, Tenn., after completing her final chemotherapy session.

Brittany Rountree converted a pair of free throws with 1:14 left and two more at the 36.4-second mark to help seal it for the No. 4 seed Tar Heels (27-9).

Alaina Coates hit several key baskets on the way to 22 points for South Carolina (29-5), held to 37.7-percent shooting while committing 13 turnovers.

Tournament on pace for second-highest attendance

By DOUG FEINBERG

The Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Bigger crowds and blowouts highlighted the regional semifinals of the NCAA women's basketball tournament.

The NCAA was looking for an attendance boost by having teams host regionals, and they got it. The four sites averaged over 9,000 fans, up more than 2,000 from last season.

It's on pace to be the second-highest total ever, barely trailing the 2003 season. Nebraska, which didn't have a host team playing, drew 9,585 on Saturday. More than 11,000 turned out in Louisville on Sunday.

"I mean, what an environment we had here today for both games," Cardinals coach Jeff Walz said. "That's what I know we're trying to do is get as much publicity, as many fans as we can to come out and watch women's basketball and I thought our marketing department at the University of Louisville did a fantastic job. And I'm expecting an even bigger crowd for Tuesday night, which it's only good for our game."

While fans turned out in droves, they didn't get to see many close games. The

eight Sweet 16 games had an average margin of victory of 17.8 points. That's the second-highest over the past 15 seasons, according to STATS.

The only game within single digits the entire round was North Carolina's seven-point win over South Carolina.

While the games might not have been close, the fans were treated to a few spectacular performances by some of the game's best players.

Alyssa Thomas carried Maryland to the regional final, scoring a career-high 33 points against Tennessee. Chinye Ogumwike had 29 points and 15 rebounds in the Cardinal's rout of Penn State. Odyssey Sims had 25 points in Baylor's victory over Kentucky.

Five takeaways from the regional semifinals:

1 One step closer to perfection: Both UConn and Notre Dame won their regional semifinal games by comfortable margins. It took the Huskies a while though to put away 12th-seed BYU. Connecticut (37-0) only led by one at the half and didn't seal the game until midway through the second half. Notre Dame (35-0) had a bit of an easier time scoring the first 14 points against Oklahoma State

en route to the 17-point win.

2 ACC dominance: It was projected to be the top conference in the nation this season with the addition of Notre Dame to an already strong group. Three of the eight remaining teams still playing are members of the ACC. If Maryland, North Carolina or Notre Dame can get one more victory, it will end a seven-year Final Four drought for the conference.

"For the ACC, you know, nobody goes into these games thinking about conferences, obviously with the shifts that are taking place, but we do feel like our conference has prepared us for postseason," Maryland coach Brenda Frese said. "When you get to have the battles that we've had all year with Notre Dame and Duke and Carolina and the depth of our conference, we feel like it's prepared us for this time, so we're really proud."

3 Sinking SEC: While the ACC had a good Sweet 16, it was a rough one for the SEC.

Top-seeds Tennessee and South Carolina both lost while No. 3 seed Kentucky and No. 7 seed LSU also fell. Eight teams from the Southeastern Conference made the NCAA tournament and only

Texas A&M is left. The Aggies are hoping to break a five-year Final Four drought for the conference, but for that to happen, they will have to find a way to pull off a monumental upset of UConn.

4 Climbing the scoring charts: Baylor's Odyssey Sims became only the second player to reach 1,000 points in a single season. She's 41 behind Jackie Stiles' record set in 2001.

"I'm 41 points away, but at the same time I'm just trying to play basketball. If I get it I get it, if I don't then I'll be fine with it," she said.

Chinye Ogumwike isn't that far behind as Stanford's star has 932 points this far. That's the seventh-highest total ever. She's only three points behind Alysha Clark and 23 behind Sheryl Swoopes.

5 UConn ones: For the third time in five seasons, No. 1 seeds got knocked off in the Sweet 16. Tennessee was routed by Maryland and South Carolina was taken out by North Carolina. Only once since the tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1994 have all four top seeds made the Final Four, and that was in 2012.

AP writer Teresa M. Walker in Louisville, Ky., contributed to this report.

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Final: No Cinderella in this season's Final Four

FROM BACK PAGE

"We didn't start off the exact way that we should have, but coach Donovan continued to remind us and humble us and help us see that, in order to get where we want to get to, the end goal, we have to continue to chase greatness every single day and stay in the moment," Florida forward Patric Young said.

To win another title, the Gators will have to go through the last two teams to beat this season (UConn and Wisconsin) or their biggest SEC rival (Kentucky).

The Huskies won the 2011 national title with coach Jim Calhoun and one-man show Kemba Walker.

Things went sour in Storrs after that. Calhoun retired in 2012 and UConn was barred from the NCAA tournament last season for failing to meet the NCAA's academic progress measure.

UConn's upperclassmen decided to stick it out instead of transferring and put together another magical bracket run behind another do-it-all-player, former Walker understudy Shabazz Napier. With their 60-54 win over Michigan State on Sunday, the Huskies (30-8) became the first No. 7 seed to reach the Final Four since the tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1985.

UConn beat Florida 65-64 way back on Dec. 2, the Gators' last loss this season.

"We play a great Florida team and we're going to be well prepared, because I know about these guys' heart, and that's what got us through," Ollie said.

Then there's Bo.

Wisconsin's tell-it-like-it-is coach had been a regular at the Final Four, taking his father, Butch, to every one since 1976 as a birthday gift.

Bo had a hard time getting

there with his team, though, winning over 700 games, playing in the NCAA tournament 13 straight years and reaching the Sweet 16 six times — and not one trip to the Final Four.

Bo and the Badgers (30-7) get their chance now after pulling out an emotional 64-63 win over top-seeded Arizona in the West Regional final on Saturday, which would have been Butch Ryan's 90th birthday.

"I can remember some of the great teams that he had of kids and their first championships and how they acted and just the joy," Ryan said. "These guys have had some others, but that's all I wanted to see."

Rounding out this foursome could be the most fearsome bunch of the bracket.

Kentucky won the 2012 national championship behind coach John Calipari's get-the-best-players-no-matter-how-long-they-stay philosophy. Cal brought in another heralded group of one-and-doners and they were touted as the team to beat, ranked No. 1 in the preseason.

After a string of losses, including three in five games, the kid Cats were out of the polls and supposedly out of contention.

Well, look at them now.

Showcasing their talent and depth, the Wildcats (28-10) are playing with a cohesiveness and confidence that wasn't there earlier in the season, racing into the Final Four after pulling out a last-second victory over Michigan.

"I can't believe it; we went through so much," said Kentucky's Aaron Harrison, who hit a three-pointer with 2.3 seconds left in the 75-72 win over the Wolverines. "We went through a lot of ups and downs, and we're blessed to be going to the Final Four."

They are not alone.



ALEX GALLARDO/AP

Wisconsin's Traevon Jackson celebrates in front of Arizona's Nick Johnson (13) as time runs out in overtime of Saturday's West regional final in Anaheim, Calif. Wisconsin won 64-63.

Badgers hit the big time

For now, basketball rules in football-mad Wisconsin

By GENARO C. ARMAS

The Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — For once, football isn't king in Wisconsin. Basketball rules Badger Country for now.

Several thousand fans dressed overwhelmingly in Wisconsin red welcomed home their beloved Badgers on Sunday to deafening cheers and lauded them like conquering heroes for advancing to the Final Four.

"I just wish we could take this and put it into about 100,000 pieces and give every fan" a piece, said coach Bo Ryan, gesturing to the trophy the team received for winning the NCAA tournament's West Regional. The second-seeded Badgers took a 64-63 overtime thriller against top-seeded Arizona on Saturday night in Anaheim, Calif.

Next stop: a date in the national semifinals next weekend at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

"Do I get to go to Dallas with you? Can the coaches go?" Ryan asked his team jokingly in front of the crowd. With people in the stands snapping pictures on their smartphones, the players gave their approval — not that Ryan needed it.

"I guess we're going. I guess we're all going."

There were high expectations for Wisconsin when the season began in November, but few people

‘Our slogan is, ‘Why not us?’ Why can’t we finish this thing off? Why can’t we win two more games?’

Josh Gasser
Wisconsin guard

thinking this season can get even sweeter.

With a piece of the championship net tied into his new commemorative hat, the 7-footer took out his phone and recorded a video he posted on Instagram of the raucous scene on stage.

Nope, it hasn't sunk in yet.

"It's your whole life playing basketball, you know," Kaminsky said. "Going into the Final Four is what everyone talks about for the college basketball season. It's too hard to describe so I'm not even going to try."

Teammate Ben Brust joked that Kaminsky's back might be hurting after all the moves he put on Arizona defenders to get some of his 28 points and 11 rebounds.

"Obviously I'm tired, it was a long game yesterday, long day of traveling," Kaminsky said. "Looking forward to some rest."

Not for long — practice resumes Monday afternoon.

Until then the Badgers will relish their regional championship that has turned them into Wisconsin rock stars. Heck, even Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers is riding shotgun to the Badgers right now after crashing the team's locker room in Anaheim, Calif.

If Wisconsin residents aren't backing the Badgers yet, they're surely at least talking about them.

"Our slogan is, 'Why not us?'" Wisconsin guard Josh Gasser said. "Why can't we finish this thing off? Why can't we win two more games?"



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Florida center Patric Young watches his shot as he falls to the floor during the second half of Saturday's regional final in Memphis, Tenn.

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Napier leads UConn back to Final Four

Senior guard scores 25 points as No. 7 Huskies stun Spartans

By RACHEL COHEN
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A veteran guard carried UConn to the Final Four. Shabazz Napier watched Kemba Walker do it three years ago. It was his turn Sunday at Madison Square Garden.

Napier scored 17 of his 25 points in the second half of a 60-54 upset of fourth-seeded Michigan State. The East Regional's most outstanding player hit three huge free throws with 30.6 seconds remaining.

The Huskies (30-8) rallied from a nine-point second-half deficit to become the first No. 7 seed to reach the Final Four since the tournament expanded to 64 teams in 1985. They rode the home-court advantage of the thousands of UConn fans who made the short trip.

"It's kind of unfair," Napier said with a grin.

He could have transferred when academic sanctions barred the Huskies from the NCAA tournament his junior season. But Napier wanted to pay back the school for the joy of that national title his freshman year, for his struggles as a sophomore.

Second-year coach Kevin Ollie is now 4-0 in the NCAA tournament at his alma mater after replacing mentor Jim Calhoun. Afterward, Ollie told Calhoun: "Thank you for believing in me." The underseeded Huskies matched Michigan State's physical play box-out for box-out, holding the Spartans (29-9) to just six offensive rebounds and six points

in the paint.

"We wanted to throw the first punch, and I think we did that," Ollie said.

UConn dared Michigan State to shoot three-pointers, and the Spartans nearly made enough, going 11-for-29 from behind the arc. Gary Harris was 4-for-9 on threes for 22 points, but his teammates were a combined 10-for-32 from the floor.

Michigan State's seniors became the first four-year players recruited by Tom Izzo to fail to make a Final Four.

Trailing 51-49 with more than two minutes left, the Spartans had a chance to tie or take the lead. Senior Adreian Payne threw the ball away, and Napier drilled a jumper on the other end.

After Payne's free throws cut the deficit back to two, Keith Appling was whistled for a foul — the fifth on Michigan State's other senior starter — for contact with Napier on a three-point attempt. Napier extended the lead to 56-51, and after Travis Trice missed a three, Phillip Nolan slipped free for a dunk that clinched the win.

"He's a winner and he willed his team to victory," Harris said of Napier.

Ryan Boatright made four steals as Michigan State committed 16 turnovers. Some were caused by UConn's quickness, others by poor decisions by the Spartans. Izzo thought his team, a popular pick to win it all after finally getting healthy in March, looked tired.

"We had 16 of the most out-of-body turnovers known to man-



SETH WENIG/AP

Connecticut's Shabazz Napier, right, moves the ball around Michigan State's Travis Trice in the first half of the East Regional championship game on Sunday at Madison Square Garden in New York.

kind, to be honest," Izzo said.

DeAndre Daniels shut down Brandon Dawson, who scored 24 points in Michigan State's Sweet 16 win over top-seeded Virginia. Dawson attempted just three field goals, making one, to finish with five points.

The 6-foot-10, 245-pound Payne, repeatedly forced out of the paint by the Huskies' defenders, hit two long jumpers to put Michi-

gan State up 32-23 less than four minutes into the second half. But Napier started driving, getting the bigger Appling in foul trouble and UConn back in the game.

After hitting four straight free throws to tie the score at 32 with 12:38 left, Napier was struck in the face by Harris — the UConn guard was called for a foul on the play — and left the court with his nose gushing blood. He was back

less than a minute later when Daniels completed a three-point play to give the Huskies the lead for good.

UConn now faces Florida in the national semifinals Saturday and they'll be confident they can beat the No. 1 overall seed. The Gators have won 30 straight, but their last loss was to UConn, 65-64 on Dec. 2 on Napier's buzzer-beating jumper.



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Kentucky's Aaron Harrison shoots the game-winning three-pointer over Michigan's Caris LeVert with 2.3 seconds remaining to give Kentucky a 75-72 win over Michigan in the Midwest Regional championship on Sunday in Indianapolis.

By EDDIE PELLIS
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The team pegged for 40-0 now has 30-10 in its sights.

Anybody at Kentucky disappointed? The Wildcats and all those freshmen are headed to the Final Four — a trip to Big D courtesy of a big shot by Aaron Harrison that kept a late-season streak going only weeks after so much had seemed lost.

Harrison made a three-pointer with 2.3 seconds left Sunday to lift Kentucky to a 75-72 win over Michigan and send the eighth-seeded Wildcats to the program's 16th Final Four.

"It's a process," coach John Calipari said. "Every year, it's a process. Some guys get it quicker than others. It took these guys a little longer, and it took me a little longer to figure them out."

But they figured it out just in time. Not in time to make good on the "40-0" boast that was printed on some T-shirts before the season began, but in plenty of time to make this a season to remember.

Harrison scored all 12 of his points on threes over the last 8:05 and was Calipari's obvious choice to take the game-decider after Michigan had tied it at 72 with 31 seconds left.

He took a handoff from his twin brother,

'I've always said, 'you can't be afraid to miss.' He's not afraid to miss.'

John Calipari

Kentucky coach on Aaron Harrison's winning shot

Andrew, dribbled three times to the top left of the arc and launched a shot over Michigan's Caris LeVert. Harrison backpacked slowly after ball hit twine. Teammates Dakari Johnson and Julius Randle chased him down.

"I was so excited, I kind of blacked out," Johnson said. "I didn't know what to think."

Michigan's Nik Stauskas missed a desperation heave at the buzzer, and then, it was Harrison's turn on the bottom of a dog pile.

Kentucky is the first all-freshman starting lineup to make the Final Four since the Fab Five at Michigan in 1992.

The Wildcats (28-10) will play Wisconsin (30-7) next Saturday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas. Two more wins and they'll have the school's ninth national title. The second-seeded Wolverines (28-9) ended their season one win shy of a second straight Final Four.

"You're going to make them score over you," Michigan coach John Beilein said. "I thought (LeVert) got his hand up. They did a good job on it. But he made a shot from deep."

What a ride this has been for this group of Wildcats, an all-new collection of McDonald's All-Americans who were touted as the team that could be perfect, then dismissed out of hand when the bad losses and bad basketball piled up in January and February.

Calipari got things turned around by March and for the second straight game in the Midwest Regional, Harrison made the shot that gave the Wildcats the lead for good. On Friday, he made the key three-pointer in Kentucky's 74-69 win over Louisville.

"I've been around guys who make these kind of plays," Calipari said. "I've always said, 'You cannot be afraid to miss.' He's not afraid to miss. That's the whole thing about making those kind of plays. And if he does miss, he's going to shoot it again."

While Harrison was being shut down early, it was Marcus Lee keeping the Wildcats in the game with 10 points and eight rebounds. Lee, another of the McDonald's All-American freshmen on Calipari's roster, had scored a total of nine points since the beginning of January, relegated to the bench after an early season illness.

SPORTS



Money well spent?

Dodgers' record payroll can't buy win over Padres in North American opener | **Page 28**

NCAA TOURNAMENT

Fearsome foursome



No upstarts among this final group

BY JOHN MARSHALL
The Associated Press

Florida had not been to the Final Four since all those future first-round draft picks were in Gainesville. Wisconsin and coach Bo Ryan had never been.

Connecticut wasn't allowed to play in the NCAA tournament a year ago, and Kentucky supposedly had no shot at getting to North Texas after a midseason swoon.

Unlike the past few years, there will be no upstarts or Cinderella in the Final Four.

These are the big boys all right, but each one has a big chip on their shoulders.

"In down times, what you do is you bond together as brothers," UConn coach Kevin Ollie said. "And you hold that fist up."

Billy Donovan won a pair of national titles at Florida with Joakim Noah, Corey Brewer and Al Horford, all top-10 NBA picks in the 2007 NBA Draft. After that second title, he accepted the head coaching job with the NBA's Orlando Magic, then changed his mind after the introductory news conference.

Donovan continued to produce winning teams in Gainesville, but the biggest wins eluded the Gators. They lost in the regional final each of the past three seasons.

That changed when the ferocious Gators (36-2) rode their chomping defense through a 30-game winning streak capped by Saturday's 62-52 win over bracket darling Dayton.

SEE FINAL ON PAGE 30

Inside:

- Napier leads UConn past Michigan State, Page 31
- Late three lifts Kentucky over Michigan, Page 31

Pictured, clockwise from top left, Connecticut's Ryan Boatright, Florida's Dorian Finney-Smith, Kentucky's Aaron Harrison, and Wisconsin's Frank Kaminsky.



AP Photos

Blackhawks' Toews suffers upper-body injury in loss to Penguins | **NHL, Page 26**

Kurt Busch ends 83-race losing streak with Martinsville win | **NASCAR, Page 24**

